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East Europe Report



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9 APRIL 1987

EAST EUROPE REPORT

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PRESS COVERS STATE FARM ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONGRESS

Background Report on State Farm Sector

Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 16 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by [mp]: "Before the National Congress of the State Farm Association -- Finding Ways to Increase Production"]

[Text] (Own information) On Monday, 17 December, the national congress of the State Farm Association opened in Warsaw. This association is a new organization that was registered this year. It is a voluntary organization for all state farms. State farms in Poland cultivate 3.4 million hectares or about 17.8 percent of all arable land in Poland.

The state farms can boast of many achievements in recent years. Since 1981, they have increased their grain production by 1.6 million tons (more than 55 percent) to a total of 4.5 million tons. They have tripled their harvest of rape. In the last two years, the state farms have also begun to raise livestock using fodder that they themselves have produced. Where they formerly sold about one million tons of grain and bought nearly two million tons of protein fodder, their sales of grain have now reached 1.7 million tons and are buying only 600,000 tons of protein components for fodder. The commercial production of basic products such as grain, rape, sugar beets, livestock and milk was about 37.5 percent higher per hectare than in 1979-1980 and this was achieved with fewer workers as well.

The changes of recent years have improved management efficiency at these enterprises and the 1985-86 fiscal year showed a profit of 58 billion zlotys. However, along with the highly profitable farms are those with very poor production.

The poor production is blamed on bad soil and weather conditions and lack of equipment, labor and housing. At a Monday press conference, it was said that the economic instruments usually applied have been calculated for mean conditions and are not relevant to the unprofitable farms. About 20 percent of the state farms are only marginally profitable and 4-6 percent of these

sometimes show a net loss in some years. The general loss fluctuates between 1.2 to 2 billion zlotys.

All of these findings indicate that the state farms have already exhausted all of their simple economic reserves. It was said that for some progress to be achieved, it would be necessary to find more complex reserves.

Reasons for Founding Association

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 17 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by Halina Dowda: "The First National Congress of State Farm Delegates Meets Today -- Every Third Quintal of Grain"]

[Text] Why do the state farms need an association? Because they are the only farms lacking their own representatives empowered to present their opinions on economic decisions of great importance to these farms. The preparations lasted two years and the greatest amount of discussion time was devoted to the association charter. On Wednesday, 17 December, state farm delegates are meeting in Warsaw for their first national congress.

Regional congresses have been held since Spring when the association was formed. The association has formed 31 chapters with 940 member-enterprises which are being represented at the congress by 330 delegates.

Let us ask again -- why do the state farms need an association? An important and valid argument usually used to justify the association is that the farms need to defend their interests. However, during discussions on the association's charter, the greatest number of remarks were addressed to the need for voluntary membership and self-management and independence for the member farms. These rights have been guaranteed in the charter. Anyone who knows something about the state farms is not surprised at these provisions. No sooner had the state farms gotten a taste of independence than their production and economic figures began to show that they well knew how to use it. Therefore, no one has to weigh their words too carefully to say just what goal the association is to serve.

In accordance with the charter, the association is supposed to "improve production efficiency and the economic results of association members". The congress will say just how that goal is to be reached. The congress is taking place at a good time because the state farms are evaluating their 5th year of work under economic reform and discussing ways of changing the financial and economic system.

The state farms do not boast of record harvests and this year's figures amount to 37.2 quintals of grain per hectare and 45.9 of wheat. Despite less use of mineral fertilizers, grain harvests have gone up from an average of 29.3 quintals in 1976-1980 to 32.4 in 1981-1985. Many farms are harvesting 60 quintals per hectare.

The masters should have more rivals for the state farms to serve as examples of good management and this is the resolution that the 10th PZPR Congress set for state farm workers. Many facts point to the spread of such thinking. The initiated changes to the structure of production favor greater management efficiency.

Ever since the first year of economic reform, the state farms have been improving their economic results. Last year, their profits exceeded 57 billion zlotys. Productivity is also on the rise. The state farms employ 13.9 workers per 100 hectares and 10.5 persons directly in agricultural production. Greater care is taken to make efficient use of production equipment.

The state farms have a considerable share of the food market to support. They provide about 30 percent of the grain, almost 60 percent of the rape, 20 percent of the livestock and more than 15 percent of the milk. In 1985, every cultivated hectare produced 56,000 zlotys (in 1982 fixed prices) worth of products while the remaining sectors produced 49,000 zlotys per hectare. Only the sale of livestock is lower than in 1980.

The starting conditions for the second stage of economic reform are incomparably better than the start of independent management and the workers are more experienced. Their understanding of economics is demonstrated by how profits are divided -- individual rewards do not take precedence over the farms' growth needs.

The employees of state farms are also distinguished by the fact that they include many party and union members. Every 4th employee is a party member and three-quarters of them belong to trade unions.

Convening of Association's First Congress

Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 18 Dec 86 p 4

[Article by [mp]: "The National Congress of the State Farm Association Convenes"]

[Text] (Own information) On 17 December, the national congress of the State Farm Association convened at the Palace of Culture in Warsaw. This organization was registered in the Spring of this year and includes 940 voluntary member enterprises. According to its charter, the goal of this organization is to improve the production efficiency and economic results of its members.

This goal is supposed to be reached through the spread of scientific and technical progress. The association is to help its members by providing expert advice and assistance, by organizing training courses, through foreign cooperation and what is also very important, it is also supposed to represent

member interests before the government especially when the latter is making decisions affecting the conditions for the sale, supply and distribution of materials and equipment. This organization is also needed by the state farms so that they, like other agricultural associations and cooperatives, can take part in economic and social negotiations with the government.

Some 332 delegates met in the congress hall. These included farm directors as well as representatives of worker self-management councils. The invited guests included Politburo Member and Central Committee Secretary Zbigniew Michalek who is also a member of a state farm, Vice-Premier Jozef Koziol, ZSL Supreme Committee Secretary Kazimierz Olesiak and Agriculture Minister Stanislaw Zieba.

The first day's discussions concerned the economic conditions of existing state farms as well as those that they will face as of 1 January. The delegates also discussed what sort of organization the association is supposed to be and its program of action. On the fourth and last day of the congress, it will adopt a program of action for the coming years and elect the association's national council and directorate.

PZPR Daily Reports Congress Proceedings

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 18 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by Ewa Fiala and Wladyslaw Bielski: "What the Farms Have Is On Our Plates"]

[Text] This is the season that is, if not entirely easy, at least the easiest time of year for farmers to break off their work. We have many issues to discuss and that is why there are so many congresses, conferences and meetings between those that plow fields and sow, harvest and put away crops. On Wednesday (17 December), a two-day meeting of the Chief Council for the National Association of Farmers and Agricultural Circles and Organizations convened in Warsaw and was attended by members of the Chief Directorate for the National Association of Cattle Breeders and Producers.

The same day also saw a most important event for farmers, the First National Congress of Delegates of the State Farm Association.

The common denominator of these debates was the state of our dinner tables, the food market and the conditions and prerequisites for more efficient agricultural production that can realize the key economic and social task of feeding our people.

Our reporters were present at these meetings.

State Farmers: The Second Threshold Is Harder

The slogan for the First National Congress of Delegates of the State Farm Association was: "State farms are centers of a high agricultural work ethic

and rural progress". Deputy Politburo Member and Central Committee Secretary supplemented this slogan, saying that state farms are not "fortified camps" but centers of modern agricultural achievement open to all farmers. That is what they should always remain and most state farms have the fundamental condition to become standards for new organizational and production ideas for agriculture.

In the first year of reform, the balance was bad and the state farms had run up a deficit of 21.5 billion zlotys. However, the congress reports and discussions point out with pride that after just one year, the state farms showed a profit of 28 billion zlotys and in the last two years, the profits have been twice as high. The majority (about 70 percent) of these profits have been appropriated for development and collective consumption. It must therefore be emphasized that pure production which indicates improved labor efficiency per worker is presently three times higher on the state farms than it was 5 years ago. The average harvest of four grains amounts to 37 quintals per hectare and this has been achieved in part through the use of a comprehensive planting technology and an increase in the amount of wheat and barley planted. This is true of all sectors of agriculture but these simple reserves are dwindling. And the second threshold is much harder to cross. For example, one can realistically assume the addition of another 500,000 hectares for high-harvest crops (with greater soil demands) but any further progress will depend much more on the quality and amount of new equipment. This subject was discussed by Jan Bajer, the director of the Manieczko State Farm Complex in Poznan Province, who with some alarm stressed that aside from tractors, only 2-7 percent of the equipment at this farm is replaced each year. The lack of special equipment is becoming increasingly troublesome.

Edmund Marcinkowski from Przemysl Province and Lucjan Nawrocki of Suwalki Province talked about the problems of state farms operating under objectively difficult circumstances (in Przemysl Province, 60 percent of the cropland needs soil improvement and in Suwalki province, the growing season is three weeks shorter than the national average). He spoke about the importance of equalizing funds and the need to modify regulations on state farm housing construction in order to obtain skilled workers.

These and others are the first tasks that the delegates placed before their association.

The first day of the congress was also attended by Secretary of the ZSL Supreme Committee and Vice-Premier Jozef Koziol, ZSL Supreme Committee Secretary Kazimierz Olesiak and Agriculture Minister Stanislaw Zieba.

Farmers' Circles: Keeping a Finger on the Pulse

In their activities to date, the farmers' associations and public circles have kept their minds on the mote in their brother's eye, etc. The proof of this will be how faithfully they implement their decisions for the new year.

A program for activating production and changing the model of farm family nutrition was adopted four years ago. What has been done? Much but still not enough. One can take pride in the hundreds of organized training courses and the popularity of numerous contests but what is bothersome is that the "more milk of higher quality" campaign, for example, must fall by the wayside for objective reasons (there is no way to make a bad situation look good when there continues to be a shortage of production equipment). However, the drop in participants from just under 11,500 teams to slightly more than 7000 last year is also the result of diminished organizational zeal within the association and the Rural Housewife's Circle. Meanwhile, thanks to the help of the farmers' association, poultry, egg, vegetable and fruit production is increasing. This benefits the market and also improves rural family nutrition.

The association was ordered to speak up for farmers for an improvement in machine quality. What are the results? A list of stipulations was sent to Plock Agromet, the Ursus Tractor Plant in Warsaw and to Stomil in Sanok (for wedge belts [paski klinowe]). Other information about equipment quality will be presented to the ministry.

The circles are also the co-authors of the so-called mountain resolution. How does it function? The drop in production has been slowed down in 14 provinces but there is still too little high-percentage fertilizer because it cannot be transported in bulks of tons into the mountains when the transportation costs exceed the value of the load. Mountain-region farming continues to wait for equipment for working sloped fields. We cannot allow slow and improper realization of the decisions to improve the social infrastructure in these sparsely-inhabited regions.

Livestock Breeding: Unavoidable Danger

Livestock producers and breeders are the agricultural elite. Livestock is an art and a hard job. Cattlemen are alarmed that their ranks are thinning. The amount of livestock dropped by 5.8 percent this year and in the last 11 months, milk sales have dropped by more than 5 percent. Cows are being sold and large farms are giving up on raising livestock.

Why? Aside from the well-known reasons such as labor-intensive production and questions of profitability, there are still other problems worth considering. Preventive medicine in barns is slipping. Cattlemen cannot replace veterinarians they have lost and even if they could, there is still a shortage of medicines, vaccines, vitamins and fodder supplements. There are only the very expensive mixes produced by Polfa. There are no milk substitutes and calves must therefore be raised on milk. This produces an estimated loss of 0.5 kg of butter per day. Calves do not need so much fat but they get it because there is nothing else to give them. A urea supplement has reappeared in fodders and there have been scientific studies warning that this hurts a cow's milk output.

Whatever specialized service does exist to support livestock production is very spasmodic. There is nowhere to order barn whitewash or the installation of the simplest barn equipment like cables. It was demanded that the association become involved in this type of activity and that it provide production services along with its training, instruction, exchanges, campaigns and exhibits.

Congress Elects National Officers

Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 19 Dec 86 p 6

[Text] State farms have their own nationwide representation. On 18 December, the closing First Congress of State Farm Delegates elected a National Council of the State Farm Association. The chairman is Aleksandr Marszalek, director of the Kietrz Agricultural Complex in Olsztyn Province. Edward Debecki was elected chairman of the association's directorate and he also held that position while the organization was being formed.

In the program of action passed by the congress, the chief task was to unify the efforts of independent agricultural enterprises in order to raise productivity and production efficiency. An increase in cooperation between private and cooperative farms was also called for.

The congress was attended by Deputy Politburo Member and Central Committee Secretary Zbigniew Michalek.

Government Daily Carries Wrapup Report

Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 19 Dec 86 p 12

[Article by [jenz]: "First National Congress of the State Farm Association -- The Goal Is More Food"]

[Text] (Own information) The two-day National Congress of Delegates of the State Farm Association has ended in Warsaw. The delegates elected officials for the National Council and the Chief Review Commission. The elected chairman is Aleksandr Marszalek, director of the Kietrz Agricultural Complex in Olsztyn Province. Jozef Bala, director of the Wejczowo Agricultural Complex, Leonard Gadjinowski, director of the Bezledy State Farm Complex, and Jerzy Kals, director of the State Center for Pedigree Stock Breeding in Bohrowniki, were elected vice-chairmen.

Edward Debecki was elected chairman of the National Directorate of the State Farm Association and the vice-chairman are Adam Stolarzewicz and Stanislaw Witoslawski.

On the second day of the congress, there was continued discussion of the association's goals. Most of those who spoke expressed hope for more effective representation of the interests of state farms to the government.

In its adopted resolution, the congress stated that the goal of the voluntary State Farm Association is to increase the role and importance of state farms in meeting the public's food needs. This goal can be achieved through joined efforts and the organization of cooperation between independent farms. The association will present an initiative on legal, social and economic regulations, help to spread technical and scientific achievements, organize personnel training and help to create better working and living conditions for state farm employees. The association also called for greater cooperation between state farms, private farms and cooperative farms.

The association will help farms operating under especially difficult conditions. This goal will be served by an equalizing fund created from dues charged to state farms with better soil conditions.

The creation of the State Farm Association has united a system of nationwide representation for all sectors of agriculture.

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BEEF PRODUCTION CYCLES ANALYZED, COMPARED TO U.S.

Warsaw WIES WSPOLCZESNA in Polish No 11 (357) Nov 86 pp 47-57

[Article by Jan Maikowski: "Fluctuations in Beef Production in the USA and Poland"]

[Excerpts] Fluctuations in beef production, like those in the production of pork, are one of the most important problems of livestock production in Poland. Agricultural policy has tried to limit these fluctuations but has so far had only limited success. The success of any measures in this area are dependent on, among other things, our knowledge of the growth of animal husbandry.

The Cyclical Growth of Beef Production in the USA

In the United States of America, livestock fluctuations and therefore fluctuations in beef production are cyclical in nature. This phenomenon can be observed in the curves for livestock and slaughter. The livestock curve (chart 1) shows its rhythmic rise and fall. This is called the livestock cycle because, like the hog cycle, it has its own growth mechanism. The principle of action of the livestock cycle is the same as for the hog cycle but the technical parameters differ in both. The livestock cycle is more than twice as long as the hog cycle and amounts to 10 years under American conditions. The difference stems from the different biological characteristics of both animals. Therefore, it is also necessary to consider the lower amplitude of fluctuations in the production of beef than that of pork production.

Fluctuations in Livestock and Beef Production in Poland

Fluctuations in the state of livestock in Poland have different causes than in the USA. The economic conditions of livestock herding are determined not by spontaneous changes in beef cattle prices but by temporarily fixed purchase prices. In connection with this, the profitability of cattle breeding is more stable in Poland despite the fact that it is also somewhat variable because of lability of production costs. However, since variations in profit are not

cyclical in nature, fluctuation in livestock and beef production in Poland are also not cyclical.

Livestock herds have occasionally dropped slightly in number or ceased to grow. An exception to this has been recent years in which livestock breeding showed a clear drop for several years because of fundamental changes in conditions for agriculture in general and for animal production in particular. Ordinary problems in cattle breeding are brought about by either the poor profitability of cattle production or a drop in the amount of fodder available.

At a more or less identical level of profitability for milk and cattle production, the deterioration in fodder conditions has a greater effect on the size of cow herds than it does on the herds of young cattle. In the 1950's, when milk production was more profitable than beef cattle, cow herds increased in size from year to year with no problem and herds of young beef cattle dwindled. For many succeeding years, the situation reversed itself. The stock of young cattle grew fairly quickly while cow herds fluctuated and stopped growing. In the 1960's and 1970's, the profitability of beef cattle production relative to milk and to hog production was incomparably better than in the 1950's. It was only in the first half of the 1980's that cattle herds dropped sharply with beef cattle production dropping faster than cow production. The drop in cattle production was no coincidence but the result of the general production situation that had at this time come into being, especially in state-owned agriculture.

The Specific Nature of Livestock Fluctuations and the Purchase of Cows in Poland

Even slight fluctuations in the stock of cows are worth more attention. They can be closely observed in chart 3 which shows them in a specific manner. Just like rises, drops in cow stock last two or three years. Thus, the curve for herd sizes takes the form of a wave.

Other than temporary fluctuations, one also sees that for several decades, there has been a tendency for a drop in cow stock. In 1974-1980, the cow stock dropped by a figure of 281,000 head or by 4.5 percent while in 1980-1985, there was a loss of 428,000 head or a 7.2 percent drop. This has been attributed to different things. Some feel that this is desirable since milk production should increase only as the result of a growth in continually low milk output of the cows. Others fear that a drop in the cow stock would have a detrimental effect on milk production. We think that the drop in cow stock and its effects, especially on a macro-scale, cannot be judged unequivocally since it is most probably the result of both intensified milk production as well as the partial limitation or even liquidation of herds on some farms. It is beyond doubt that the limitation and liquidation of cow herds does hamper a growth in milk production. The irrefutable proof of this is the fact that in 1974-1985, milk production did not rise and that an improvement in milk yield was compensated only by a drop in herd sizes.

Fluctuations in cow stock are also accompanied by fluctuations in cow purchases. As chart 3 shows, due to the varying level of cow shortages, purchase of these animals fluctuates considerably stronger than the status of cow herds. Generally speaking, the fluctuations in cow purchases and shortages coincide with fluctuations in the size of cow herds. In the starting period of growth in cow herds, the degree of cow shortages drops to its lowest level and then increases with the growth of cow herds to reach its highest level in the beginning phase of the next reduction in cow herds. In this case, there is a certain similarity to the situation in the USA. Cow purchases behave in the same manner as the shortages. Since the middle of the 1970's and especially in recent years, the degree of cow shortages has been at a level considerably higher than in preceding years. Since the high degree of cow shortages is accompanied by a tendency for less stock, the shortages must therefore be regarded as the result of the smaller number of cows and not as an expressions of farmers' efforts to reduce the period of cow utilization.

Cow purchases hold an important place in the sale of slaughtered beef. Changes in their purchases which, as we see, are the result of changes in the number of cows, have a substantial effect on the level of beef cattle purchases. In recent years, a drop in cow herds has meant that the purchase of beef cattle has unexpectedly turned out relatively well in relation to the overall amount of livestock.

Fluctuations in Herd Sizes and the Sale of Young Livestock

As opposed to the USA, fluctuations in the stock of young livestock are relatively low in Poland. Furthermore, they are not, as in the USA, the direct result of frequent fluctuations in the cow stock but occur because Poland continues to extensively and predominantly breed livestock for milk and meat. The low milk yield of cows makes it necessary to keep a large stock of cows and this also entails a large production of calves and a relatively high rate of their slaughter. For that reason, the stock of young cattle and cows has varied for many years. Between 1950-1975, for example, the stock of young cattle tripled in spite of the stagnation in the size of the cow stock. Such a large increase in the stock of young cattle was possible then because of a drop in calf slaughter from 3.2 to 1.7 million units.

In the period of 1975 to the middle of the 1980's, we initially had to deal with a slight followed by an ever greater drop in the stock of young cattle, chiefly at state-owned farms. In 1979-1985, it dropped by nearly 50 percent but only by about 10 percent in private agriculture.

It must be expected that in the next few years, livestock breeding will again rise. A fairly high level of calf slaughter of about 1.5 million units per year will create such possibilities even if the cow stock drops. However, this growth will actually be slow since as in the first half of the 1980's, the primary goal of agriculture will remain the production of grain and milk. It is true that the production of beef cattle depends predominantly on volume

feeds but its quick increase competes with the production of milk and grain and this is accompanied by increased grazing. This has been clearly demonstrated by the well-known practices of state-owned farms in the 1970's.

Fluctuations in the purchase of young livestock are somewhat greater than stock fluctuations but considerably less than the purchase of cows (chart 4). The variability of cow purchases is above all related to variations in their degree of shortage rather than actual number. If the degree of shortage were constant, fluctuations in cow purchases would be more or less the same as the cow stock and thus just a few percent. At the same time, the purchase of young slaughtered cattle is chiefly determined by the amount of young livestock since the influence of herd renewal is less in this case.

Aside from specific periods, the purchase of young slaughtered beef grows in such a way that after a few years the growth declines somewhat and in a few more years begins to go up again. During periods of declining and stagnating purchases, the stock rises, starting first with the calves younger than 6 months of age, followed by those of up to a year in age and then those older than one year. Only after that period does the increased growth of purchases bear fruit. Purchase changes are signalled by previous changes of the stock. Thus, a considerable growth in the purchase of young cattle in the next few years will only be possible if it is preceded by a substantial increase in livestock.

Causes of the Fluctuation of Cattle Stock in Poland

Analysis of long-term growth of livestock in Poland leads one to the conclusion that fluctuations have both production-related causes as well as economic ones. The production causes are chiefly a matter of fodder reserves and the economic causes are related to the profitability of producing milk or beef cattle. Since instability in the production of fodder for cattle is a natural phenomenon, fluctuations in cattle herds and milk and beef production are also unavoidable.

Generally speaking, beef production is, with small exceptions, breaking down regardless of whether or not herds of cow or young cattle are dwindling. If the stock of young cattle diminishes, that will lower the supply after a certain time. If in turn the cow stock dwindles, then its supply increases temporarily and the purchase of beef cattle also temporarily rises. At the same time an increase in the basic herd especially when it is unaccompanied by an increase in the stock of young cattle, has the opposite effect as it temporarily decreases the supply of beef cattle because on the one hand the degree of cow selection diminishes and on the other hand, more heifers are fertilized.

A drop in the selection of cattle fodder is usually associated with worsening profits from cattle breeding. In such a case, a growth in the cost of fodder production causes increased costs for feeding livestock especially when volumetric fodders have to be supplemented with other vegetables. Above all,

this situation has its negative effects on cattle breeding which is then least profitable. If beef production is more profitable than milk, farms then hasten to liquidate the least valuable cows because it is cows that consume the most fodder. By this means, farms most often not only balance their fodder supplies but also build up a surplus that allows them to maintain or broaden production of milk or cattle. The negative effects that fluctuations in the supply of cattle fodder may have on beef production can be considerably limited by the proper policy on beef cattle prices.

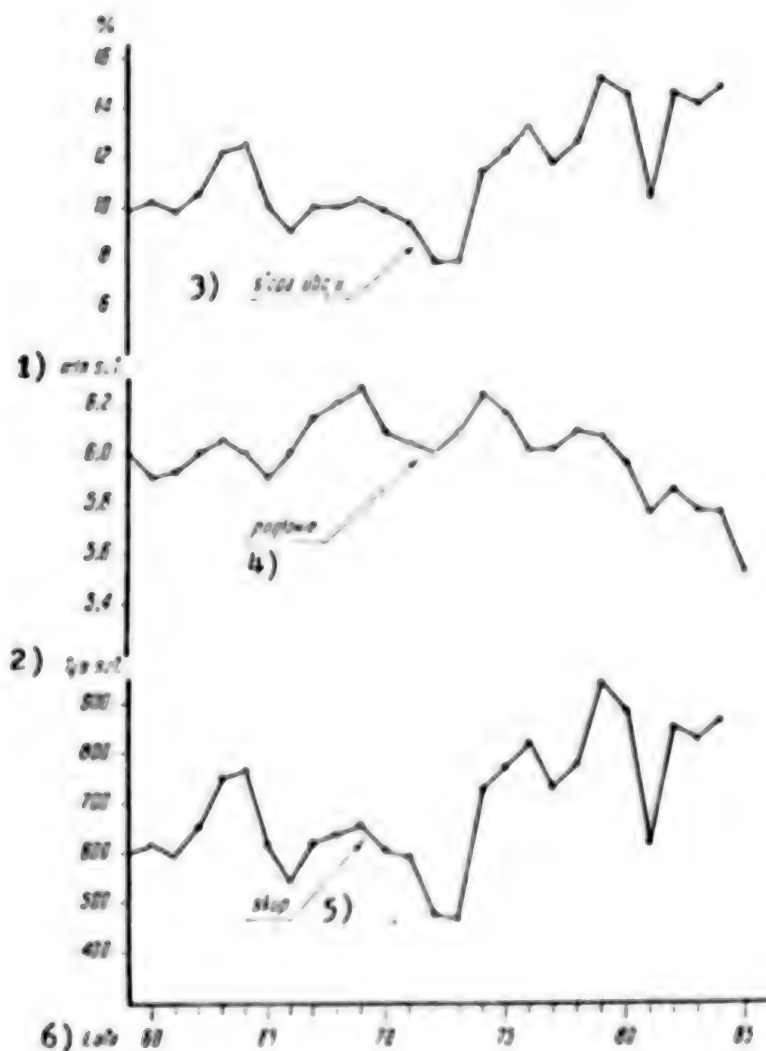


Chart 3. Herds, purchase and rate of cow slaughter in Poland. Key: 1) millions of units; 2) thousands of units; 3) slaughter rate; 4) number of head of cattle; 5) purchases; 6) year.

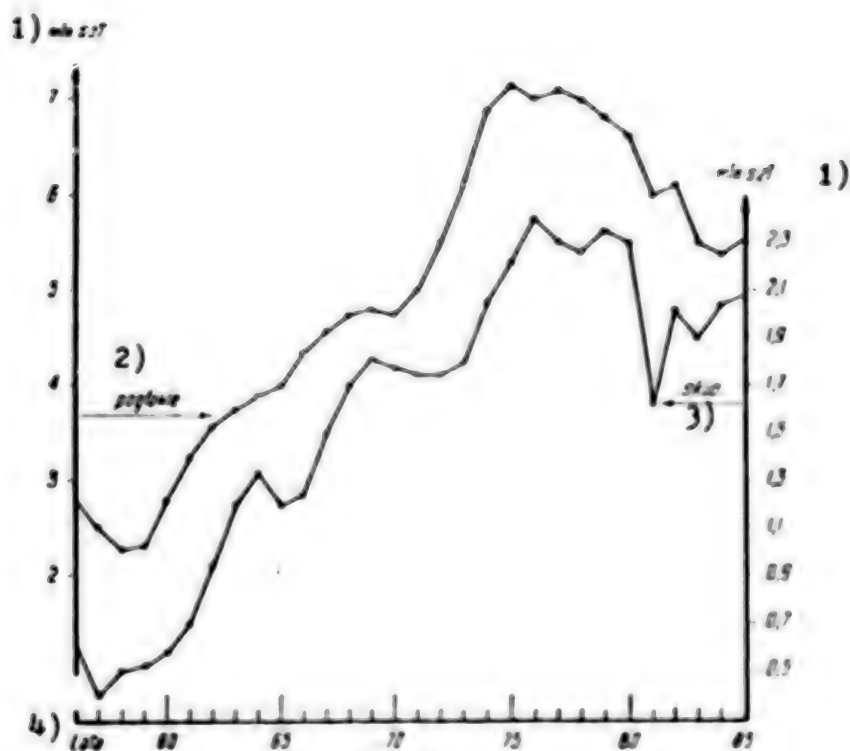


Chart 4. Purchases and number of head of young cattle in Poland. Key: 1) millions of units; 2) number of head of cattle; 3) purchases; 4) year.

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CAPITAL UTILIZATION EFFICIENCY DROPPING IN SSR

Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Slovak No 48, 1986 p 5

[Article by Eng Marta Vladořova and Eng Vladimír Hasko, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs of the SSR: "No Dramatic Upturn in the Seventh 5-year Plan"]

[Text] The article "You Cannot Win with Obsolete Technology" (HOSPODARSKE NOVINY No 35, 1986) pointed out the unfavorable trends in capital utilization in the CSR. The advanced age of capital assets, their inferior quality and inadequate utilization are circumstances which in the current 5-year plan are considerable holding back our fulfillment of basic tasks set by the CPCZ economic policies. The following article confirms that such phenomena and trends are not limited to the CSR.

In 1981-1985 the need to improve the quality of the process of replacement was extremely urgent also in the replacement of capital assets in the SSR. The chronic unsatisfactory situation accompanied by a high investment rate, and the changed conditions of disposable resources called for a change in the orientation of our investment policies from investment-intensive to a neutral type of technological development.

In spite of that, during the period under discussion the development of capital assets and of their active portion continued to be more dynamic than the development of efficiency. As compared with the period of the Sixth 5-Year Plan, the growth rate of technological furnishing slowed down, although efficiency could not be stimulated to a necessary extent.

The Furnishing Rate Is Increasing--Efficiency Is Not

Workers in the production sphere were furnished with machinery and equipment whose value rose from Kcs 92,200 in 1980 to Kcs 122,900 in 1985. Our industry acquired above-average furnishing. The decline of capital efficiency may be illustrated as follows: If in 1970 an employee in the production sphere needed capital assets amounting to Kcs 2.94 per Kcs 1 of gross domestic product, in 1980 he needed Kcs 3.48 and in 1985 Kcs 4.19.

In recent years, especially since 1984, the development of capital efficiency in our industry accelerated, but the efficiency of their active portion slightly declined again in 1985. Capital efficiency in our construction industry was

dropping all through the 5-year period. The gap in the "efficiency-furnishing" growth ratio continues to be extensive. In 1978-1984, for instance, nearly 75 percent of the growth of our labor productivity from adjusted value added in our chemical, wood-processing and light industries was derived from the growth of technological furnishing of labor. Only in our health industry capital efficiency amounted to more than 50 percent of incomes.

This long-term development reflects an extensive process of replacement of capital assets; it means that in that particular area no fundamental upturn in the development of qualitative indicators took place in the Seventh 5-Year Plan.

Only a slight, gradual increase in the weight of the machinery and equipment was noted in the development of the structure of capital assets. The share of the active share of capital assets in SSR economy is equal to 40 percent and in SSR industry to 45.9 percent. Compared with advanced countries worldwide, this situation demonstrates a conspicuous lag.

Slow Renovation

The correlation of the intensity of investments and phasing-out determines the structure of capital assets. The stagnation of the phase-out coefficient went hand in hand with a decline of the coefficient of investments in machinery. Positive phasing-out trends were noted in only 8 of our 17 industrial branches. The least favorable development was reported by our paper, cellulose, glass, ceramic, porcelain, typographic, and garment industries. A higher coefficient of investments in machinery was reported by 5 branches, only one of them managed by the SSR government; the most conspicuous decline occurred in paper, cellulose, textile, and garment industries.

The slow renovation extended the service life of machinery in the production process by up to 20 years, rendering our technological base very obsolete and worn out. The actual service life of our capital assets is approximately twice their average age, which means that buildings and facilities serve production and nonproduction operations for 35 years, and machinery and equipment for 20 years. If we assume that the average value of machinery and equipment phased out each year is Kcs 4 billion (actual situation in 1981-1983, this volume of obsolete machinery should be phased out in 7-8 years.

The total amount of annual depreciations of machinery as capital assets, which is higher than the value of new machinery, confirms the low rate of replacement. This relation is characteristic for our power-generating and textile industries; the compared quantities are the same in the wood-processing industry.

The highest share of completely depreciated machinery in our industrial branches (in 1976-1983) was reported in typographic industry (27.1 percent), garment industry (21.5 percent), construction materials (20.4 percent), electrical engineering and metal-processing industries (20.0 percent). In general, the share of completely depreciated machinery and equipment rose from 11.5 percent in 1976 to 14 percent in 1984.

How About Technological Standards?

Another characteristic was the increased wear of machinery capital assets, mainly in key branches of our production sphere, which amounted to more than 55 percent. In this respect, the costs of maintenance of capital assets rose; for example, in 1982 they represented 86 percent and in 1984 74.5 percent of machinery investments. The costs of repairs and maintenance positively affected the operation of the machinery and its technological condition, while its technological standard remained the same.

As of 30 June 1984 the average grade of technological standards of machinery and equipment observed in 2-year intervals was 3, or the same as in the comparable period of 1982 and 1980. Grade 3 (i.e., semi-automated, with operating cycles regulated by control systems) is maintained due to only minor shifts in favor of active capital assets with the highest technological standard. The highest share in the total value of machinery was achieved in 1984 by semi- and fully automated machinery and equipment (63.3 percent), which represents a 1.4 percent increase over 1982. The lowest share (9.5 percent) was achieved by programmed equipment whose dynamism was equal to 4.4 percent as compared with 1982.

Our fuel industry reported in 1984 the highest share of fully automated machinery--6.12 percent. The next sector--textile industry--achieved only 2.2 percent, electrical engineering 14.9 percent, and wood-processing industry 13.2 percent; as compared with 1976, electrical engineering and wood-processing industries markedly declined.

The anticipated changes in the technological standard of the production process were considerably stymied by inferior interdepartmental achievements of branches with similar profile. For example, the manufacture of robots and manipulators failed to meet its tasks for the Seventh 5-year Plan and is still lagging behind, one of the reasons being that the production has not offered the users adequate possibilities for all-inclusive organization of production lines. The prevalent so-called spot deployment of robots and manipulators hampers any more systematic substitution of workforce with technology.

In the Seventh 5-Year Plan the branch of computer technology was characterized by an expanding deployment of computers. In 1985, 362 computers were added, i.e., 27.6 percent of all computers for the entire 5-year period. Computers of group I represented 66 percent and of group III 17 percent of a total of 1,675 digital computers. As for their efficient utilization, many untapped assets remain, among other things, because the computers are insufficiently interconnected, underused, and last but not least, they are being used only for routine operations in the process of management. However, more extensive, radical introduction of automation opens up new opportunities for workers with higher skills and makes better use of workforce by scientific organization of labor.

Disharmony Creates Problems

The trends in the replacement of capital assets are directly linked with the development of jobs and job opportunities which in 1980-1985 increased by

7.9 percent; of that, machine operating jobs were up 8.2 percent. The average share of machine-operating jobs is 40 percent of the total. In 1985 the share of machine-operating jobs amounted to only 25 percent of the increase, which means that 75 percent of new work opportunities involved manual labor. In terms of the relation between the increase and decline of jobs, it is evident that while in 1980 there were 1.97 new jobs per each phased-out manual job (in machine-operating jobs this ratio was 1:1.8), in 1985 that ratio deteriorated to 1:2 in manual labor and in machine-operating jobs it amounted to 1:1.5.

The development of the labor utilization rate was also unfavorable. In 1980-1985 the labor utilization rate for workers in interrupted operations from usable work time declined by 1.55 percent as compared with 1980; in machine-operating jobs that differences amounted to 1.96 percent. The coefficients of the shiftwork rate and of the utilization of the first shift also declined. As for achieving the efficiency standard, 1985 scored a record with the worst parameters in the entire Seventh 5-Year Plan.

The increase of workers' jobs was accompanied by a growth of unfilled jobs which in 1985 amounted to 173,070. The rate of unfilled jobs was reflected in the 75.15 percent job utilization rate. An even lower utilization rate--75.05 percent--was noted in machine-operating jobs.

The unsatisfactory utilization rate stems from the discrepancy between the replacement of capital assets and the replacement of workforce. In the 1982-1985 period 21,683 job opportunities were open to workers, but workforce in workers' categories increased by only 15,264.

The analytical review presented here underscores the chronic shortcomings and a slow improvement of quality in capital replacement. These long-lasting trends may be summarized in several conclusions as follows:

First--the total expended social labor has not produced desirable results and led to disproportions in technological furnishing and labor productivity. The results of controlling the volume of investments and the volume of phasing-out weakened the effect of this mechanism whose purpose is to balance the existing capital assets with the available workforce.

Furthermore, there can be no doubt that thus far the R&D progress, which is materialized in capital assets, failed to bring about a fundamental upturn in technology and in the technological standard of the production process. And finally, the prevalence of manual jobs which is intensive in terms of the human factor failed to provide a necessary latitude for the desirable integration of highly skilled workers.

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SED ECONOMIC STRATEGY, TACTICS EXPLICATED

East Berlin EINHEIT in German Vol 42 No 2, Feb 87 (signed to press 14 Jan 87)
pp 128-136

[Article by the EINHEIT editorial staff: "On the SED's Economic Strategy
With a View Toward the Year 2000"]

[Text] As explained in the Central Committee report to the 11th party congress by Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, the SED economic strategy is a concept of the economic growth of our national economy in the course of intensification. It answers the question of what is required now and in years ahead in the GDR to strengthen further the economic and social capability of socialism and still more impressively demonstrate its superiority to the capitalist social order. The course of the united economic and social policies and its continuation are decisive for it because the economy is not an end in itself in socialism, but a means for improving the people's material and cultural standard of living. Thus at the 11th party congress the unity of economic and social policies was reasserted as the core of the economic strategy. This unity of economic and social policies is the SED's main battleground. It is that course which is aimed at perceptibly demonstrating the advantages of socialism in men's ordinary life. Through the interaction between economic performance and social results mighty impulses are generated for further economic growth. The course of the united economic and social policies was established by the 8th SED Congress in 1971. As Erich Honecker observed at the third SED Central Committee session in November 1986, it has shaped "our fine development for more than one and a half decades. Dynamic and efficient production growth goes together with full employment, increasing public prosperity, fine education for all, and the blossoming of science and culture. All that is going to mark the image of our socialist GDR still more in years ahead." (Footnote 1) ("3. Tagung des ZK der SED, Aus dem Schlusswort des Genossen Erich Honecker," Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1986, p 90) Between 1971 and 1985 we managed to raise the national income of the GDR's national economy by 199 percent, i.e., we doubled it. During that period also, 2.4 million apartments were newly built or modernized, which basically improved the housing conditions for over 7 million citizens.

In the upshot of it, this entire policy provides evidence for its social effect. Thus the 11th SED Congress decided to carry on the united economic and social policies consistently. For that precisely the economic strategy with a view to the year 2000 supplies the crucial orientation. And so, as Comrade Erich Honecker explained at the 3rd SED Central Committee session, through these resolutions the developed socialist society in the GDR is being shaped further in accordance with our concrete historic conditions and in the spirit of our party program. "The republic developed," so said the spokesman of the SED parliamentary group at the 3rd session of the People's Chamber of the GDR, "thanks to the great creative efforts of the GDR people, as a modern socialist industrial state with an efficient agriculture and a highly developed educational system. We have a flexible and well functioning system of a social planned economy. Its strong backbone are the combines. Thereby we succeeded in turning around to comprehensive production intensification and introducing a penetrating production upgrading process. And so also in the future a dynamic economic efficiency improvement is in the cards." (Footnote 2) (Guenter Mittag, "The Policy of the 11th SED Congress Accords With the People's Interests and Is Being Implemented with Rich Initiatives," NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, p 6). Accordingly, the 1986-1990 5-year plan envisages a national income boost by 125 percent and a net industrial production boost of 150 percent. More than 1 million apartments are going to be built or modernized. Great efforts will continue to be undertaken for bolstering economic capacity in all sectors, extending the socialist educational system, the generous promotion of culture and science, medical care and a healthy lifestyle for the people. The output of consumer goods, as a basis for more supplies offered to the public making more money, is boasted once again, which serves in particular a stronger effectiveness of the socialist performance principle.

The economic strategy of the SED is a result of the creative application of the ideas of the classic authors of Marxism-Leninism to the GDR's concrete historic developmental conditions and of the exercise of the party's leadership role in the concrete analysis and determination of the most important tasks for the republic's social development in a given era.

The economic strategy with a view toward the year 2000 as issued by the 11th SED Congress in April 1986 is summarized in 10 key points. They are headed by the task to connect the advantages of socialism still more effectively with the accomplishments of the scientific-technical revolution. In close connection with that, the demand is made to accelerate the boosting of labor productivity and ensure production growth while reducing specific expenditures for raw material, semifabricates, and energy sources. That means that all energy and raw materials used must be more highly refined, that for each kilogram of material used a higher use value as well as a higher increase in value have to be achieved. Thus the economic strategy also implies ensuring quality production throughout the economy that would meet high international standards. To trim expenditures at the same time and further improve working and living conditions, and to make the work highly efficient all around, a top rank is granted to socialist rationalization. That leads to much higher demands made on investment activity and, in particular, on the share of rationalization investments in the processing industry. The economic strategy assigns the task to develop more strongly still the consumer goods production, which must become a concern of the entire economy. Altogether the SED economic strategy contemplates a smooth and

dynamic efficiency growth because strong and constant economic growth is what the sociopolitical goals, the improving of the people's material and cultural standard of living in our country, require. Such economic growth can be ensured only on the basis of comprehensive intensive expanded reproduction.

If one traces the economic strategy back to the main process on which it is based, that of intensification, one will find that its elaboration does not constitute a one-time pragmatic reaction to changing reproduction conditions, let alone to labor or resources shortages, but that it is a consequence of objective developmental conditions of the socialist economy and, hence, a long-term strategic orientation. A brief historic review may illuminate that: In the 1971 8th party congress, together with the main task course with its united economic and social policies, intensification was assigned as the main road for economic growth. In 1976 the 9th party congress, issuing the program for the further shaping of the developed socialist society, moved, in the Central Committee report, the "10 points of intensification" into the center of the party efforts. In 1981 the 10th party congress issued the economic strategy for the 1980's, and the 11th party congress extended that effort in defining the party's economic strategy with a view toward the year 2000.

But that means: The economic strategy evolved in a lengthy process. The passing of resolutions at the 11th party congress depended on the analysis of proven practical experiences.

The salient point of that analysis was that in implementing the economic strategy the turn to intensification was brought about.

The background for this remark is that economic growth between 1981 and 1985 was already, in decisive factors, due to intensification. The national income growth to more than 90 percent depended on an increase in labor productivity. It became possible in this period to trim the specific consumption of economically important energy sources, raw materials and semifabricates per unit of industrial commodity production by an average 5.3 percent annually. The time utilization of important production equipment in the processing industry rose from 13.9 hours per calendar day to 16 in 1985. All told, the national income growth was caused up to 40 percent by the trimming of production consumption, i.e. of the consumption of energy, raw materials and semifabricates, and by a better utilization of the existing production installations. So in that period the economy of live and embodied labor became the crucial basis for growth. Here, practical results then confirmed the economic strategy, based on intensification.

That laid an essential foundation for the 11th party congress in further defining the economic strategy. The requirement for that, contained in the Central Committee report, thus takes over what has stood up well, but it does not stop there. New qualitative and far-reaching inferences were drawn from the status of results achieved and from the requirements to be expected in the future. In this whole period, one principle came ever more to the fore in SED efforts, that of presciently spotting new developmental tendencies in time, especially in the economic field, and reacting to them in time. Even the economic strategy as issued by the 10th party congress already was such a reaction to the implacable necessity to place economic growth on the basis of intensification. There could then be only one conclusion for the economic strategy with

with a view toward the year 2000 to be drawn after the turn to intensification had been made: to do everything possible to ensure that intensification assumes a comprehensive character all throughout the economy and is placed on permanent foundations.

The dynamics of intensive expanded reproduction would inescapably demand not to halt at what has been achieved, but to make new sources effective at a good time. We must ensure growth for the future without using more labor, energy, and material. All sources for production growth have to be exploited from out of the internal possibilities of the reproduction process itself. The significance and dimensions of this requirement become all the clearer if one considers that this does not amount to production growth, but that the entire output has to be ensured by means of intensification.

Growth by way of intensification is not an act confined to a one-time or specific period, but is a general requirement. Under that aspect the question of the sources for the constantly progressing process of intensive expanded reproduction gains greater importance. They have to grow out of the entire economy and, moreover, out of the entire social organism, out of the dialectical interaction between productive forces and socialist production relations.

Under these aspects the first point in the economic strategy gains overriding importance. It contains the task to connect the advantages of socialism still more effectively with the accomplishments of the scientific-technical revolution which--as is explicitly stressed--has itself entered a new phase. It has been, is, and will remain a basic principle for our party always to pay the greatest attention to dynamic productive forces development as an objective ongoing process. Development of the productive forces means rising labor productivity, economizing of the means of production, better qualities, better demand satisfaction, and hastening the intensive expanded reproduction cycle. And we always start from the proposition that man is the chief productive force.

Through man's creative efforts science and science application in production become the main intensification factor, technology becomes embodied knowledge capacity, as through science as generalized human production experience working hours, energy and material are saved, the means of production becoming more effective all around.

Under prevailing conditions modern science is not only one of the factors making the productive forces more effective, it is their salient and crucial factor. The scientific-technical revolution evidently signifies that both science and human production experience have come to a point where quantity changes into a new quality. This means that the application and use of the most up-to-date scientific data come at an unprecedented rate and range pervading the entire economy and other public sectors as well.

One consequence of this development shows up in high-tech or the key technologies, which may also be called the key to higher labor productivity and a higher economic level. The decisive aspect and the qualitative innovation in the economic strategy the 11th SED Congress has issued is that these key technologies in their dynamics and breadth become the basis for the GDR's continued economic growth by way of intensification. This does not mean that because of

it other technologies forfeit their place in the economy, but that from the use of the key technologies the crucial reserves for further economic growth are derived which then, step by step, pervade the entire economy.

Making intensification comprehensive and providing permanent foundations for it is indeed the harder and larger part of the total task to be solved of turning intensive expanded reproduction into a permanent and exclusive foundation for economic performance growth. For that one must find, not one-time sources, but sources steadily flowing in character. Combining the accomplishments of the scientific-technical revolution with the advantages of socialism is a challenge and chance for it at one.

The SED economic strategy assumes that the scientific-technical revolution is an objective productive forces development process. Unprecedented dynamics and a new quality are provided for it thereby. The most important thing here is that now at a broad range and permanently the immediate application of new science data in production, i.e., their economic utilization, becomes the basis for steady economic growth that also shows a high degree of dynamics. That is feasible because in this process new possibilities, in principle, are found for a more productive, and above all a more creative, human labor. When the information processing techniques, based on microelectronics, appear as the "fourth component" of large-scale machine production, as Marx defined it, and pervades that production, the place of working man in the production process changes. He becomes less and less merely a link in the technological process and more and more a shaper and manager of interconnected technological sectors. This amounts to a development of course, and oversimplified or even utopian ideas about man simply taking his place "next to" the production process are no doubt un-called for.

What matters is to understand that with the key technologies, especially with microelectronics and its application in electronic computer techniques, such as in the form of personal computers, the CAD/CAM technique, and modern means of automated controls, an entirely new production potential is generated. Human knowledge is stored in the form of data and software, is "embodied" in the figurative sense, so that space is gained for relieving mental monotony, whereby it becomes altogether possible in the first place to master and speed up complex processes.

A most typical expression of this developmental tendency is found in the application of the CAD/CAM technique, i.e., of computer-based jobs for the design and control of technological processes. This turns computer techniques, based on microelectronics, into an immediate working tool for designers and technicians, which mainly makes possible significantly reducing the time frames for design and technical preparation while testing a great number of technological variants and selecting the best of them. There are now 24,700 such CAD/CAM terminals. Within a year their number more than doubled in the GDR economy. As anticipated by the 1987 national economic plan, their number this year will increase by another 19,000. Altogether, 90,000 CAD/CAM terminals will become operational during the 1986-1990 5-year plan, and the work of some 300,000 to 400,000 people will become much more productive.

Operating CAD/CAM terminals leads to more than the immediately higher productivity of all involved. It also means creating a new qualification potential in that all who deal with modern computer technology gain new knowledge, in particular in information technology, while they find themselves induced to deal more thoroughly still with the substantive tasks of the design or technological process. The potential that springs from that can hardly be assessed in its economic consequences, is however categorical for the all-inclusive effort toward higher efficiency of all the labor and the quality of the products.

The same direction of higher productivity is effected by the introduction of flexible automated production sectors, especially in machine building and in electrical engineering and electronics, but in other sectors of the processing industry as well. These flexible automated processing sectors essentially rely on combining the classical machinery of mechanics with elements of microelectronic control, where both components then fuse into something qualitatively new, into a highly productive machine system, which of course also includes the data on the labor process, stored in the form of software. That also includes the connection between processing machinery and robot technology, through which altogether the character of the technological process and its economy in the processing industry change fundamentally. There are data that show it is possible to raise labor productivity from 200 to 800 percent in such sectors. At the same time, in the sense of a transition and approximation to this most productive automation technology, many forms of rationalizing and modernizing existing installations are found through upgrading them in part or infusing them with electronic control techniques, so as to widely boost productivity in machine building and electrical engineering and electronics. Connected with that, the capability is created to react in production even with smaller numbers of units economically and flexibly to changing needs, which is an essential characteristic of modern machine construction.

Implementing the economic strategy means achieving higher economic results through new technologies and commodities. That calls for working more productively, trimming costs all around, and producing a higher grade of new commodities as to economic demands as public supplies and for export. For the GDR industry that means coming up annually to an upgrading degree of 30 percent for commodities and of 30 to 40 percent for consumer goods. That is an ambitious target. The upgrading degree shown for 1986 was almost 29 percent.

This all-inclusive upgrading process of production, in line with the 11th party congress demands, must be oriented toward the highest international standards. In important areas the task has been assigned to reach international top positions and surpass, if possible, what has been known thus far. The SED has directed us not to dodge the objectively set international standards and to manage and organize the product upgrading process in such a way that new products show higher use properties and yield accountable economic benefits in production and consumption. We are from the outset against trying formal working methods in this important field. For that we also have strict rules in quality assurance and control, product classification according to quality categories and periodic checking of the attribution, once granted, of the highest quality seal "Q." That has then also economic implications for the enterprise.

...ing higher grade products is inseparable from enhanced production refinement. Through a higher scientific-technical level of the products, through better quality, and through reducing specific material resources, one seeks a higher value per kilogram of material used. In this the refinement strategy is aimed at to use mainly domestic raw material resources--even if their availability is limited--the refining of which goes through various production levels and is enriched through skilled labor until one gets to the end product. This course of refining also is more and more subject to the application of the key technologies, especially microelectronics, but also the application of new technologies and working materials and of biotechnology.

Embedded in the overall SED economic strategy is the further deepening of scientific-technical and economic cooperation between the GDR and the USSR, as agreed on between Erich Honecker and Mikhail Gorbachev when they met on 3 October 1986. This GDR-USSR cooperation, it may be stated today, has assumed a gigantic scope, unique in the world. It is a close cooperation in science, technology, and production. That is supported above all by the agreements worked out jointly between the GDR and the USSR on direct scientific-technical and production relations between GDR combines, enterprises, and organizations and USSR associations, enterprises, and organizations, and on forming joint GDR-USSR specialists' collectives, signed in November 1986. All that is part of the active contribution the GDR is making to implementing the comprehensive science, technology, and production program of the CEMA countries up to the year 2000.

The substance of the economic strategy, aimed at the use of qualitative factors of growth and intensive expanded reproduction, absolutely has to be congenial to the management, planning, and effective cost accounting system. That conforms to the proven principle of granting much space to the dynamic development of the productive forces while the socialist production relations are being further developed on their own foundation. This makes necessary, as was expressed at the 11th party congress, to be ready to adapt to innovations, not to remain stuck in old habits, but to look actively and creatively for relevant solutions. In implementing that task, the SED proceeds from the remark made by Comrade Erich Honecker, that the GDR has a well functioning system of a socialist planned economy proving to be efficient, dynamic, and flexible. Its components and orchestration are aimed at implementing our party's economic strategy. Based on that, management, planning, and effective accounting are being further improved. The proven principle of democratic centralism is basic to all of this. It links central state management and planning with an ever broader spread of the collectives' creative initiatives in the enterprises and territories. In other words, what matters is to bring to realization in the most effective manner the great opportunities and advantages of socialist property under the conditions of modern industrial large-scale production.

In all this the SED relies on there being the state-owned combines, the chief force in coping with the scientific-technical revolution. "In them science and production are ever better fused on a new level. Together with the institutions of the GDR Academy of Sciences and with university affairs, they are organizing the effort toward international top positions." (Footnote 3) ("3. Tagung . . .", op. cit., p 95) This way the combines are being turned into the broadest base for an economically effective development and application of the

key technologies. It is necessary for it that in them science and production are organically combined and that they have the necessary science capacities in design, project planning, and technology and their own rationalization means production. The close link between science and production in the combines then also requires a cooperation on an economic basis, organized through contracts, between the combines and the institutions of the GDR Academy of Sciences and university affairs. So the effect of the republic's important science and educational potential is reinforced toward a high scientific production level and, hence, toward economic results. We are already proceeding that way with success.

The existence of the combines is the outcome of the creative application of the lessons from the classic Marxist-Leninist authors about the socialization of labor. Marx and Engels already proved that the social character of labor under the conditions of modern large-scale machine production is inseparable from combining the various partial projects, and that this objective process expresses itself in the concentration and centralization of capital all the way to the corporations. As Lenin analyzed it, this process of the capitalist socialization of labor by the large monopolies and trusts leads close to socialism. And the classic authors demonstrated how from the increased social character of labor new possibilities arise, in principle, for boosting labor productivity and for "economizing the constant capital." So it made sense to lend a qualitatively new content to this socialization of labor objectively connected with modern large-scale industry under the conditions of socialist property and direct its effect to the strengthening of socialism.

Thus, in a lengthy process, in the GDR's industry and construction industry 150 centrally managed combines arose that are made up of enterprises and that operate, on the basis of the plan with a high degree of responsibility of their own, in accordance with economic accountancy. They have all the capacities needed for making the combine's end products--from R&D and design, to rationalization means production for introducing modern technologies, the production of quality-controlling ancillary supplies down to end production--as well as sales organs including foreign trade enterprises or firms.

A general director manages the combine. To the state and party he is fully accountable for meeting the tasks the economic plans have assigned to the combine. He has to make sure that the combine meets its economic tasks while its performance is improved by way of intensive expanded reproduction. That is to say, the combine must itself produce the ways and means for the needed boost in labor productivity, for further trimming the specific energy and material consumption, and for a better utilization of the production installations. This is done mainly through a pertinent requirement and the organization of the science and technology capacities, through hastening the expansion of in-house rationalization means production, so as to rapidly materialize new products and technologies and push ahead the modernization of the capital assets, and through extensively developing the mass initiative in the socialist competition led by the trade unions, while resolute use is made of the socialist performance principle.

The most important step lies in further combine development, to improve socialist production relations in the GDR to the point where they will become compatible to the qualitatively new developmental level of the productive forces. The combines themselves are being further developed in that their own rationalization means production is strengthened further quantitatively and qualitatively. That concerns especially the strengthening of the groups for applying microelectronics and achievements of their own in the software field. That is in the interest of perfecting both the technologies and the products. Quality-controlling ancillary supplies will become more still a part of the combines' reproduction process, especially in the field of foundries. "That way alone can one cope with the upgrading process at the rate needed today and at the necessary quality, aiming at world standard-controlling products. That changes the combines' production profile. That is a basic prerequisite for working with high efficiency everywhere and, above all, quickly reacting to changing demand requirements." (Footnote 4) (Guenter Mittag, "Management, Planning, and Effective Accountancy in the GDR Economy," EINHEIT, No 10, 1986, pp 879-880).

All that is aimed at organizing the reproduction process as a whole in all its phases. There are no rigid boundaries, but close organic ties, between scientific research, technical development, production organization, and the sale of products up to including the return of financial means. The whole work of the economy is all the more effective, as experience teaches us, the more smoothly one succeeds in ensuring from the outset the organic connection among the phases of the reproduction process. This is a task of economic management and planning, balancing, in particular, playing a decisive role. At the same time, however, it must be brought about on the level of the economic units by way of economic relations. It is the chief concern of the combines as the backbone of the socialist planned economy, within the area of responsibility in any given combine, to be accountable to this objectively given connection among the phases of the reproduction process through uniform management with economic means. What benefits the economy must also benefit the combine or enterprise or other economic units. Through close ties with state management and planning, the categories of economic accountancy like price, credit, and interest are being used then in order to provide the combines and enterprises with incentives for an economically most effective management. It is an objective fact that merchandise, value, and money exist in socialism and that through those categories, based on the plan, economic relations are established among the combines and enterprises and other economic facilities.

The GDR planned economy relies on the strict unity of material and financial planning, of use value and value. Material and financial processes are subject to profit and loss accounting. And here the objectively given existence of the merchandise-money relations makes it necessary that the tasks in the national economic plan are accomplished through economic relations between the combines and enterprises, among the economic units in the economic reproduction process.

Management, planning and effective accounting are always organized and further perfected as a unified system in conformity with the inner connection of their components. Management, central state planning, and economic accounting, and

the economic incentives connected with it in the final analysis are aimed at developing at best possible the working people's creative initiative for high economic achievements by way of intensification. That is done through inseparable linkage with socialist competition as organized by the trade unions.

After the 11th party congress made its resolution and in a close relationship of trust with the people, much work is being organized to implement the economic strategy under SED leadership. The 3rd Central Committee session could thus come out with the assessment that the 11th party congress resolutions set new and higher criteria for our work. They triggered a vast mass initiative in socialist competition throughout all public sectors, sustained by the realization that high economic achievements are a sure foundation for our party's policy on behalf of the people's well-being, the all-round strengthening of socialism, and the safeguarding of peace.

5885

CSO: 2300/195

DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER ON ARMY'S PEACE SERVICE

AU162108 East Berlin HORIZONT in German No 2, 1987 p 3

[Article by Colonel General Fritz Streletz, member of the SED Central Committee, GDR deputy minister of National Defense, and chief of the Main Staff of the National People's Army: "Military Service Under Socialism Is Peace Service"]

[Text] The 11th SED Congress noted that in the GDR a reliable system for its defense and military security has been created. It reaffirmed at the same time the class assignment of the members of the National People's Army [NVA]. "Their task remains to safeguard the sovereignty, territorial integrity, border inviolability, and security of the GDR. In a firm comradeship-in-arms with the glorious Soviet Army and with the other armies of the Warsaw Pact states, in close cooperation with the allied protective and security organs, they stand guard for peace and for the collective military protection of the socialist countries. The purport of being a soldier under socialism is to preserve peace, to prevent arms from speaking."

This assignment expressed the most humanistic nature and the peaceful goals of our socialist foreign, security, and military policy.

To Improve the Political Climate in the World

On the basis of our historical experiences we feel committed--as Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has stressed repeatedly--to a policy aimed at doing everything possible to ensure that a war would never again emanate from German soil. Today it is more important than ever to collaborate with all forces of peace, reason, and realism in order to contribute to the consolidation of peace and international security. Like the entire GDR working people, the NVA members welcome and support the manifold peace initiatives of the USSR and of all the member-states of the Warsaw Pact. We assess in an equally positive manner the increasing activities of the peace forces throughout the world, particularly the "six states' initiative."

With a policy of results-oriented dialogue, the GDR has for many years been making an internationally recognized contribution to improving the world situation and to returning to detente.

Other important steps are initiatives such as those contained in the principles for establishing a zone free from chemical weapons, worked out jointly by the SED and SPD, and in the proposal for creating a corridor free from nuclear weapons in Central Europe along the sensitive dividing line between the Warsaw Pact and NATO. The positive outcome of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe, an outcome in whose achievement we have actively cooperated from the very beginning, lends force to our political line. The GDR in turn employs all its might to strictly implement the stipulations of the Stockholm document.

Surely the exchange of military delegations between states with different social systems also serves the building of confidence and understanding among these countries and their armies. We regard the visits of the delegations of the Swedish Armed Forces, the Austrian Federal Army, and of the Armed Forces of other capitalist armies that were our guests, for example, in 1986 as a contribution to the stabilization of the international situation. Military and political contacts with all forces ready for an understanding will also in the future help to improve the political climate in the world.

In full agreement with the fundamental legitimacy of the defense of the socialist fatherland, as formulated by Lenin, the SED program describes securing peace and the protection of the socialist gains as an essential characteristic of the developed socialist society.

By elevating military service as a peace service under socialism to the level of the most important task of the Armed Forces of the victorious workers class, the workers class preserves and continues all the progressive features, particularly those of German but also of international military history. The historical roots of our socialist army extend from the military conflicts of the early bourgeois revolution and the achievements of the Prussian military reformers up to the struggles of the workers class against capitalist exploitation, fascism, and war. But the lessons concerning the building and protection of socialism on German soil are also applied by us.

As early as before the formation of the NVA of the GDR, at the second SED party conference in the summer of 1952, there was not doubt left about the class nature of future socialist German Armed Forces. Such Armed Forces should, as Wilhelm Pieck, the first GDR president, noted in this context in July 1982, "deprive imperialism of the desire for military adventures in the heart of Europe."

At all stages of social development the SED has always decided on problems related to military organization, the education, training, and equipment of the Armed Forces, and their military leadership in accordance with the conditions of the actual situation. It safeguards political control of national defense. The determinant role of the SED constitutes the decisive guarantee of all successes in the development of socialist military affairs in our country because, while protecting the interests of the workers class, it, at the same time, also represents the interests of the other classes and strata.

We determine our approach to solving all military problems proceeding from the uniform guiding principles of the military doctrine of the Warsaw Pact member-states, which is a doctrine of peace and defense against imperialist aggression. The defensive nature of the socialist military doctrine results from the socialist, peace-loving nature of our societal system. There is no room there for preventive strikes and military surprise attacks as envisaged in the NATO concepts. We regard it to be our main task to work out methods of repulsing an aggressor and crushing his troops should he ever dare to attack us.

Inviolably Linked With Fraternal Armies

In accordance with the principles combined in the socialist defense coalition, the NVA was formed as the nucleus of national defense, as a coalition army of the joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact, and its composition, structure, and equipment were fashioned accordingly. The comradeship in arms with the Soviet Army and the other fraternal armies is an comradeship in arms with the Soviet Army and the other fraternal armies is an essential part of the patriotic and internationalist way of thinking and action of the NVA members and their daily military life. The USSR and its Armed Forces in particular selflessly passed on to our army by many ways and means their experiences and knowledge in the field of socialist military science. This begins with the supply of first-rate military technical equipment and ends with support in mastering it. Over the years particularly close relations have developed commanding organs and troops of the NVA and the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany.

Today the NVA is a modern army which, together with the fraternal armies, is ready to fulfill its class assignment at all times.

The class and military alliance with the Soviet Army and the other armies of the Warsaw Pact will continue to be strengthened in the 1986-87 training year, the year of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

Defense Readiness Is Always Guaranteed

As was stressed at the 11th Party Congress, it is an integral part of the securing of peace by the socialist Armed Forces always to maintain such a level of fighting strength and combat readiness of all army components and arms as matches the specific imperialist threat and the offensive chances of the Armed Forces of the United States and NATO in order not to permit military superiority on the part of imperialism.

To the confrontational course of the most aggressive imperialist forces we counterpose the course of defending peace and of progress. This includes all the measures required to safeguard the defense capability and maintain a constant high level of combat readiness of the Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member-states. This requires of the NVA troops and staffs constant political and military vigilance and intensive education, as well as thorough mastery of the weapons and technical equipment in line with their tasks.

The NVA members have scored good results in these fields in the year of the 11th Party Congress. The soldiers, noncommissioned officers, and officers are

now competing in socialist competition under the slogan "Soldiers' deed for 11th Party Congress, combat ready at all times for peace and socialism" for optimum performances in political and combat training. In doing so they are aware of the fact that, under the present conditions of the stockpiling of nuclear weapons of mass destruction and of the danger of the extermination of mankind by them, being a soldier under socialism means to secure peace and combat war through high vigilance and combat readiness before war breaks out. Hence the class assignment acquires a new historical dimension. The ability and readiness of the Warsaw Pact armies to deprive the imperialist aggressors of any hope of victory in a war are today important elements of the socialist securing of peace.

The enormous scope and rapid pace of change in military affairs must also be taken into account in the further development of the NVA. In doing so, ever new answers must be found to questions about the development trends of weapons, their place and employment in combat, and first and foremost about the role of man in the course of the qualitatively rapid further development of weapons systems.

Modern technical combat, troop control, and maintenance equipment is putting increasingly higher demands on army members. But in reality it is only the unity of man and technical equipment which leads to the necessary higher fighting strength, as was already noted in principle by Engels. This is why high political--moral steadfastness, psychological stability, qualification, and physical endurance are required from army members. Modern weapons systems are increasingly being operated by entire military collectives. Absolute dependability and perfection of man and technical equipment are acquiring greater weight for the successful accomplishment of the increasing tasks, as was also elaborated at the third session of the SED Central Committee. The application of modern findings, of key technologies, and particularly of microelectronics is an important prerequisite for accomplishing the demanding tasks of the future. The role of science in military affairs will further increase in the coming few years, as was noted by the 14th conference of delegates from the party branches in the NVA and the GDR border troops. The quick translation of the most recent findings of science into military practice will help to enhance the fighting strength of the troops and staffs, and will help to fulfill even better the increasing tasks in the ready alert system, and in the combat and border service.

All these efforts are ultimately aimed at contributing to the strengthening of socialism, and hence to the maximum endurance of peace. It is entirely in this spirit that the NVA members, side by side with the Soviet Army and the other Warsaw Pact armies, will in the future, also do all they can to protect peace and the socialist gains in the heart of Europe in a militarily dependable way.

/12913

CSO: 2300/222

KESSLER RECEIVES MILITARY ATTACHES ON ARMY DAY

LD260252 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2138 GMT 25 Feb 87

[Text] Berlin, 25 February 87 (ADN)--Army General Heinz Kessler, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and GDR Minister of National Defense, today received the military and defense attaches accredited to the GDR on the occasion of the 31st anniversary of the National People's Army. Colonel (Mihai Burbulea), military, air and naval attache at the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Romania in the GDR, conveyed congratulations on the Army's anniversary and also thanks for the support of its responsible activities in the name of the representatives of the Armed Forces. In the interests of peace, the attache spoke in favor of contributing to deepening mutual trust and developing relations between countries and armies on the basis of equality in the future as well.

Minister Kessler declared that the members of the National People's Army of the GDR would do everything in their power to solve the main question of the moment, the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe and the maintenance of peace. In spite of the, then as now, complicated international situation, the real chance exists on reducing the danger of war by radical, verifiable disarmament measures. The comprehensive and far-reaching peace program of the USSR, the Budapest Appeal as well as further initiatives of the Warsaw Pact countries points to a possible way of achieving this. The GDR will continue its course of political dialogue and the reduction of international tension in close collaboration with the Soviet Union, the other socialist states and all forces interested in peace.

/12913

CSO: 2300/222

MAIDEN FLIGHT OF PRODUCTION-VERSION 'SOKOL' HELICOPTER

Lublin SZTANDAR LUDU in Polish 1 Dec 86 p 1

[Article by R.W.: "First Flight of the Mass-Produced 'Sokol' -- At the Controls, Janusz Ochalik Who Flew the SM-1, the First Polish-Made Helicopter"]

[Text] (Own information) The next to the last day of November this year will certainly be an important date in the history of the Polish aviation industry because it was in the afternoon hours of this day that the Sokol helicopter, designed and built entirely in Poland, took off from the Swidnik factory. Sokols have already been flown and tested, not only in Poland but also in the USSR but these were prototype models made at the WSK [Transportation Equipment Plant] Research and Development Facility. However, the helicopter whose take-off on 29 November was attended with great interest by the employees and directors of the plant and above all, its creators led by the chief designer, Stanislaw Kaminski, emerged from the production shops of the plant as the first unit of a series of 10 and practically speaking, this is the start of the model's mass production.

"The purpose of Saturday's nearly hour-long flight was to check the craft's stability, its technical flight parameters, handling, correct performance and how well the engine and other parts respond to control," said Tadeusz Kochanowski, the deputy chief of production at WSK. "The helicopter's correct assembly was also checked. In sum, we wanted to test the craft for its operability and find any production defects so that they can later be eliminated".

Just after the Sokol landed from its test flight, I spoke with Janusz Ochalik, a first-class test pilot who on 23 March 1956 took the controls of the SM-1, the first helicopter produced in Poland and one based on Soviet technical documentation.

Janusz Ochalik said: "These two events are separated not only by 30 years but also by some enormous qualitative differences. It is hard to compare the 1956 model with the Sokol which is a highly-advanced machine. In the air, it handles flawlessly. It is easy to fly and can do some difficult maneuvers.

Thanks to its high class of equipment and design, it can be operated under difficult meteorological conditions both day and night. I am really satisfied that I was chosen to test fly the first mass-produced Polish-designed helicopter produced at WSK Swidnik".

The work on the Sokol started in the middle of 1974. This is a 14-seat, multiple-purpose helicopter. It can be equipped as a passenger, transport, training, ambulance or load-lifting helicopter. Its passenger version can carry 12 persons with 15 kilograms of luggage each and as a transport craft it can carry a load of up to 1800 kilograms. The ambulance model can accommodate four reclining patients and one medical attendant.

The extensive tests (including flights under very high and low temperatures, strong winds, high altitude) conducted in the Soviet Union so far have confirmed and demonstrated the Sokol's values initiated the decision to put it into mass production.

12261

CSO: 2600/338

GENERAL STAFF ACADEMY PARTY UNIT MEETS

Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in Polish 30 Dec 86 p 5

[Article by [j.k.]: "A Time of New Demands and Duties"]

[Text] (Own information) At the General Karol Swierczewski General Staff Academy, a party-military conference was held. The conference was devoted to analysis of conditions in the academy that are favorable to realization of ideological and political, didactic, educational, scientific and research tasks outlined by the PZPR Program and the 10th Congress Resolution.

Participants to the conference included the school headquarters and Academic Council under the academy's commandant, Division General Wladyslaw Mroz, members of the School Committee and PZPR Control and Review Commission, department representatives, organizational directors and the first secretaries of the basic party organizations.

The conference participants concentrated their attention on discussion of forms and methods of work in all academic communities and the principal cells of party activity for realization of the decisions of the 10th Congress in accordance with the resolutions and tasks facing higher education.

The conference was opened by the secretary of the academy's PZPR committee, Col Henryk Herman. The introductory report read by Col Edward Ogiela described the effectiveness of practical actions to complete the reports and elections campaign at the academy. Col Ogiela also familiarized his listeners with the chief directions of academic enterprises for realization of the party's political line and policy.

The discussion made frequent reference to the 10th PZPR Congress's slogan of "The party is just as strong as its primary organizations". Janusz Gumulinski, Stanislaw Pioro, Teofil Wojcik and Mieczyslaw Respondek spoke about the improvement of academic activity in accordance with the modern demands of students and the needs of the army.

Summarizing the conference, the commandant pointed out the need for extensive application of the contents of the resolutions by the 10th PZPR Congress to improvement of academic political and ideological activity, modification of the methods and forms of teaching and inspiration of scientific-research activity. General Mroz stated: "For the Polish Army General Staff Academy, the time has come for new demands and duties dictated by ever-more complex training, technical and organizational problems and for thought about contemporary and future combat practice".

12261

CSO: 2600/338

MILITARY SETS UP YOUTH SUMMER CAMP EXCHANGES

Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in Polish 23 Dec 86 p 5

[Article by [paz]: "Free Summer Camp Exchange in 1987"]

[Text] (Own information) At the invitation of the Chief Directorate of the Independent Self-Managing Trade Union of Army Employees [NSZZ PW], a delegation of employees of the German Democratic Republic's State Housing Administration visited the central seacoast region of Poland. The delegation of unionists from the GDR was received by Ryszard Keller, secretary of the Chief Directorate of the NSZZ PW, Grazyna Lukasiweicz, social affairs specialist, and Maria Piatek, chairman of the army employees' union organization at the Koszalin chapter of the Military Trade Center.

There were meetings with the union aktiv of Koszalin during which the guests were informed about the course and decisions of the Congress of Reborn Polish Trade Unions, the union structure and the chief directions of union work. The participants also exchanged their experiences in everyday union work in their respective communities.

The unionists from the GDR went to the community of Dabki near Darlowo where they visited the summer camp of the Pomeranian Military District. A free children's summer camp exchange was proposed for next summer and it was decided that Polish children would go to the new camp at Neuseddin on the Saddingersee and the proper agreement was signed.

In 1987, the summer camp at Dabki will be an international camp and each session will include children aged 10-14 from the GDR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland.

On their return to Koszalin, the German guests visited the city and laid a wreath of flowers at the Monument to Those Fallen in Defense of the People's Rule in 1945-1952.

12261

CSO: 2600/338

MAIN POINTS OF RESTRUCTURING EXPLAINED

Prague RUDE PRAVO In Czech 22 Jan 87 p 1

[Editorial: "Restructuring Begins with a Change of Attitudes"]

[Text] Earlier this year our public was given an opportunity to learn the contents of "The Principles for the Rebuilding of the Economic Mechanism of the CSSR" (RUDE PRAVO 9 January), a document of extraordinary importance and significance, which will ultimately affect every area and every aspect of our economic planning, organization and management; it will influence every link of our central administration and economic sphere because the Principles--and naturally, along with them also the previously adopted policies aimed at improving the quality of Czechoslovak goods, and other regulations--have launched a qualitatively new stage in our economic development, its management and planning. This decision is one of the most relevant sociopolitical measures in the post-1948 period.

Before the end of this year a comprehensive document on the management of our national economy will be formulated on the basis of the Principles. A partial experiment has already been initiated to test expanded independence of our economic organizations and their responsibility for efficient management. New principles will be gradually put into practice in the following years.

Those are mistaken who think that the situation may be improved without achievements. They identify with complete clarity the type of the planned new methods of management, planning and organization on every level.

The Principles have shown just as clearly the required atmosphere which must be created already in 1987 and in which it is absolutely inevitable and imperative to strive for a change in the thinking and approaches to the fulfillment of individual tasks. We are aware that every restructuring of our economic mechanism starts with a change of attitudes, with a departure from the accepted routine of thought and deed, and with a clarification of the essence of new tasks. This is a particularly important point of departure--after all, no matter how brilliantly formulated, the comprehensive document may be, we cannot expect from it any automatic results, but rather its effect will depend on public attitudes to its implementation, be it in central administration or in a small, seemingly second-rate factory, and above all, in the performance of our economists; however, let us not underestimate the role of every technician, worker and official.

Nevertheless, the realization that problems must be approached in a new way cannot be regarded as resignation to new demands--in other words, an essentially passive attitude. That would contradict the main idea of this whole objective which underscores precisely the significance and importance of each individual's vigorous participation--as the saying goes, from the foreman to the minister-- in championing new methods of work in every branch or workplace. Here it is not--and will not be--enough for this program to set in motion many newly formulated economic mechanisms, not to mention thorough enforcement of the merit principle in rewards. It would be a very poor show indeed to take note only of the more efficiently planned system, to welcome it and to applaud it.

The motivation of new attitudes towards work must be based above all on deeply ethical political principles, on our realization of the socialist man's responsibility and on our nurturing of his activity and his efforts to participate with all his ability and knowledge in preparing the ground for our further economic development.

The importance and the objective of the Principles must be seen in close correlations and interactions with other documents on national economy, in particular with measures for improving the quality of all our products, and with measures which stress the role of the people's control committees in rating the standards of goods, especially in enterprises that have been at loggerheads with quality for quite some time. This concerns the already mentioned testing of new methods of management in two economic production units [VHJ], to which additional enterprises will be added in the course of the current year. Moreover, this concerns the changes in the management and organization of our foreign trade and the enforcement of previously adopted documents initiating and expanding direct contacts of our manufacturing enterprises with the CEMA, especially with the USSR, etc.

We cannot disregard such important documents as "The Comprehensive Program for R&D Progress of the CEMA Member Countries Prior to Year 2000," "The Program for Long-Term Cooperation in Economy and R&D of the CSSR and USSR for the Period to Year 2000," and similar programs of bilateral cooperation with other CEMA states. Their implementation must reflect new approaches and far more dynamic action.

Thus although the Principles for the Rebuilding of the CSSR Economic Mechanism" are primarily in the form of theses, their specific demands, which are familiar enough, must be translated into deeds without delay, so that important bridgeheads be created in our national economy for new, more efficient methods of management, planning and activity of the great masses of workers.

All this demands that an atmosphere of lofty challenges be created in every workplace without waiting until the comprehensive document is announced and appropriately stipulated for the whole management, for every branch, down to the smallest factory and workshop.

Therefore, the task of our day is crystall-clear--to create a favorable atmosphere for the restructuring of our economic mechanism everywhere, all through our national economy.

WRITER URGES DEFENSE, CLEANUP OF ENVIRONMENT

Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 6 Mar 87 p 5

[Article by Jan Suchl: "Ecology--A Public Matter"; from the discussions at the Czech and Slovak Congress of the Writers Unions]

[Text] Hardly a day goes by that we do not read of some kind of ecologic disaster involving our waterways. What is happening?--we ask in horror. Nothing more than the fact that, until recently, no one wrote about these matters. Statistics show that, in the last 10 years, such disasters have occurred in this country at the rate of 225 per year, as I have calculated. The quality of the water we drink is deteriorating, the sulfur cloud above our heads continues to become more dense. Ten years ago, when I published the photographic book entitled "Jizerske ticho" I had no inkling that this stillness which, at that time, was a stillness of the beautiful august forests would be transformed, in an unbelievably short time, to a stillness of the dead forest. I had no inkling that, following the dying off of the forests in the Krusne Hory Mountains, the Jizerky, the Krkonose, and other mountains would come next. The predictions of forest specialists, which indicate that 30 percent of our forests would die by the year 2000, appeared like a horror story to me then; but today we already hear--and I so heard on television last week--that some 50 percent of our forests are already damaged.

I have no doubt that the financial resources which are made available from national resources to handle the costly investment campaigns such as, for example, the provision of desulfurization and separation equipment and large purification stations are maximal within the bounds of our economic possibilities. But I also do not doubt in the least that much more could be done to improve the environment at the level of lower and the lowest organs, down to the last individual. For years we have been reassured in our conviction that appropriate institutions and organizations exist which would responsibly fulfill their missions and would alertly assure adherence to valid standards and regulations for the good of us all as a whole, as well as individuals. Even I believed this up to the time when my friend, who is a chairman of a unified agricultural cooperative, told me that he was presented with a bill to sign for several hundred liters of dishwashing detergent and that when he expressed surprise about such a quantity, which would be sufficient for several tens of years for the cooperative kitchen, he received the answer that the agrotechnicians had ordered the liquid because it is an excellent means for the quick

drying of potato haulm. However, he did not find out what effects the fluid would have on the actual potatoes and what benefit it would be to those who will eat them, how it will benefit the soil, etc.--this is something which no longer interests these modern-day alchemists.

And so we are involved and it even pertains to our profession. It is praiseworthy to write and to touchingly read of children who feed the birds, who clean streams and wells, but it is criminal to remain silent with respect to institutions and individuals who damage nature and, frequently, destroy things on a large scale.

Let us also not be lulled by the contention that things are in the good hands of specialists. These people can also be wrong and be prisoners of their own narrow sectoral and local personal interests, they can be laggards and fail to develop the necessary initiative or they can develop it in an undesirable direction. If this were not the case, questions would not arise as to whether a system of modern mill reservoirs and dams is of greater value than the declined forest or a unique ecosystem; we would not have to think as to whether the Brno automobile race track is more beneficial than the hundreds of hectares of forest which fell victim to it? We would not have to ask the question why, in our forests, up to 25 percent of the timber is left to rot, whereas every owner of a family central heating plant burns 100 quintals of coal per year while elsewhere in the world small technology has long existed to process wastewood, including branches and brushwood, and small boilers exist for its combustion, whereas a certain manufacturer here--as I recently read--is already developing wood stoves which, in days gone by, every village stovemaker was able to not only develop but erect on the spot? For almost 20 years we have heard about the necessity to utilize wastewood for wood chips, whereas our foreign neighbors not only make all-round use of wood chips but it also pays them to import sawdust from us.

In other words, I want to say that the protection and creation of the environment should be made into a public all-people matter in the best and broadest sense of the word.

5911

CSO: 2400/181

SOVIET CONSUL VISITS GORZOW

Zielona Gora GAZETA LUBUSKA in Polish 17-18 Jan 87 p 1

[Article by [ada]: "Gorzow Visit By the USSR Consul General in Szczecin"]

[Text] On Friday, the USSR consul general in Szczecin, Yury Vasilevich Ivanov, visited Gorzow. This was his first visit since he recently assumed this post. The consul general met the first secretary of the Gorzow Provincial PZPR Committee, Wiktor Kinecki, Gorzow Governor Stanislaw Nowak who is also the provincial chairman of the Society For Polish-Soviet Friendship [TPPR] and then the presidium of that organization's directorate. In the company of representatives of the provincial government and the TPPR aktiv, he visited the exhibit "USSR In the Eye of the Camera" at the Stilon Museum and also became acquainted with Stilon itself, the largest learned production establishment in Gorzow, which also has the largest chapter of the TPPR.

The contacts between the Soviet consulate in Szczecin and Gorzow have been lively for years and have had many obvious results. This year, they will be made even closer by the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. A rich program of festivities has been planned in Gorzow.

12261

CSO: 2600/404

INTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICIAL ON CITIZENS RIGHT TO ORGANIZE

Warsaw PRZEGLAD TYGODNIOWY in Polish 7 Dec 86 p 6

[Interview with Col Jerzy Zaremba, Director, Social Administration Department, Ministry of Internal Affairs, by Andrzej Janusz: "The Right To Be Active"]

[Text] [Question] Social activity is measured by things like one's activity within public organizations. At the same time, on the list of civil rights guaranteed by the Constitution, the right to organize was mentioned only in last place by the participants of a poll taken by the Public Opinion Research Center. Do you see any connection between the poll and the fact that the present law on public association dates from 1932?

[Answer] I see no such connection, especially because the law on public associations which has been repeatedly updated since the war, regulates only a segment of citizens' public activities.

[Question] That segment consists of over 2000 various organizations from esteemed academic associations to hobby clubs.

[Answer] Let us start from the beginning. Most generally speaking, a public organization is any voluntary association of citizens that is not part of the state apparatus. Organizations of this sort include trade unions as well as social and cultural associations.

[Question] Does that mean that all public organizations in Poland have the same rights?

[Answer] Organizations of a higher degree of independence that function directly according to Article 3 of the Constitution and not qualified by any other legal regulations are the political parties (PZPR, ZSL, SD). Separate laws also govern the activity of cooperatives, trade unions, agricultural organizations as well as organizations like the Polish Red Cross, Voluntary Fire Department or even recently, physical culture associations.

[Question] Does that not then confirm the claim that the 1932 law no longer fulfills its functions?

[Answer] In its initial form, the 27 November 1932 decree of the president of the Polish Republic regulated the legal existence of all public organizations beginning with political parties and ending with common associations. Today, it already has a universal character and considering the tendency for ever-newer sphere of public activity to be excluded from its regulations and for them to be subject to separate legal acts, one can indeed say that the original law has become somewhat restricted.

[Question] And by the same token, the restriction of supervision of public organizations by the Internal Affairs Ministry?

[Answer] The number of public organizations supervised according to the provisions of the law on associations has been considerably reduced as the result of separate legal norms (this supervision is carried out by local government). I would like to add that the term of validity of this legal act gives no basis for regarding it as invalid.

[Question] You are not trying to say that law is like wine, the older, the better, are you?

[Answer] I only want to say that law has proven itself in practice and has also passed its test under the present social and political conditions. Our law on associations is not an exception, after all. For example, in France, this problem was resolved by a law passed in 1901. To put it briefly, in its present form, the law on associations makes it fully possible for citizens to exercise their constitutional right to form associations.

[Question] Then the right to form associations is not limited by anything?

[Answer] Under Polish law, any limitations on the right to form associations come from either the Constitution (Article 84, Section 3 bans the creation of or participation in associations whose purpose and activity are aimed against the political and social order or at the legal order) or the provisions of the law on associations which are nothing more than outgrowths of the Constitution. Polish legislation is in accordance with the content of Article 22 of the International Pact on Civil and Political Rights according to which "everyone has the right to free association with others and the right to create and join trade unions in order to protect their interests". This article also contains the so-called public order clause which allows restriction of the right to associate by legal regulations if that is necessary in a democratic society for reasons of national or public security, the protection of public health or morality or to protect the rights and liberties of others.

[Question] How are associations registered in Poland?

[Answer] The regulations of the law on associations distinguish three types of associations. There are common associations which are made up of at least three physical persons of legal age. These do not have to be registered and begin to function once they have announced their existence to a local organ of government as long as this same organ does not forbid their establishment within 4 weeks. However, such associations do not have a legal identity nor can they enjoy public benefits and cannot join with other organizations (there are exactly 50 such associations in Poland and most often these are associations of students or pupils).

Another type of association are the registered associations whose creation requires the submission to a local organ of government on the provincial or primary level (in relation to the expected area of operation) of a written recommendation, charter draft and list of founders by name. If the government organ does not reject the registration, it is registered in the list of associations and unions and the charter is approved which from that moment is binding upon the members of that association as the control organs of the government. These associations can try to obtain funding, are permitted to conduct economic activity and can receive public benefits. This is presently the most popular form of civil association and there are now about 2000 of these associations in Poland, 400 of which are national associations.

the last group are the public utility associations whose status is granted by order of the Council of Ministers. This is the highest organizational form of associations. This status is granted to organizations whose activities are especially desired from a point of view of both state and public interests. As a rule, these are associations that have already accomplished much as registered associations. We have 37 of them in Poland and they include the Polish Scouting Union, the Society of Friends of Children, the Supreme Technical Organization and the Polish Motorist's Association.

[Question] Let us look at the most popular associations, the registered associations. Could we say that this type of association is fashionable?

[Answer] At the beginning of the 1970's, it was fashionable to form associations of lovers of certain cities or regions. In the 1980's, the fashion was for associations of radioaesthetes, psychotronics and various other supposedly scientific associations. At the present time, there is a growing tendency to form highly specialized technical associations.

[Question] On what basis does the Social Administration Department decide whether association X or Y is useful and worthwhile?

[Answer] The role of government organs is limited to determining whether the existence of an association is a threat to public security or law and order. Furthermore, these organs check to see whether the creation of an association is useful to society. Before any decision is made on legalizing the new association, the registering organ will in any case turn to a competent

government organ for advice on the foreseen activities of the given association.

[Question] The competent institutions may not wish to have any rivals. A bureau concerned with technical progress would oppose the registration of Association of Rural Inventors even if the Ministry of Agriculture gave a positive opinion.

[Answer] I do not know if that is the best example but we can look at it. The goals of an association can be realized by existing public organizations such as the Scientific and Technical Association of Agricultural Engineers and Technicians and the provincial technical and invention clubs. Regardless of existing public organizations, it is also possible for the declared goals to be realized within technical and invention clubs which can be created by crafts organizations or agricultural social and professional organizations (in accordance with the Council of Ministers decree dated 29 June 1984 on inventions). The present organizational system of the inventor's movement therefore guarantees the sphere of action of all groups including rural inventors and craftsmen.

[Question] Does that mean that the activity of an association duplicating another already-existent organization violates the law? Would that not be an example of too broad an interpretation of the security clause?

[Answer] Aside from purely legal considerations, we must also consider those of usefulness. What sense is there in creating an association with the same goals and location? This would only disperse public initiative and resources.

[Question] Are the same criteria used to disband associations?

[Answer] The duration of associations may vary a great deal. Aside from associations with old traditions, some of which hark back as far as the Partitions (1820 for the Plock Scientific Society and 1857 for the Poznan Society of Friends of Science), we have associations that at the moment they come into being plan to fulfill worthwhile goals and conduct extensive activities but soon after they are registered, they fall apart and disappear. This is especially true of some local associations and others. One such dying association is the Society for the Friend of Public Monuments which was founded in 1969 by Professor Jozef Chalasinski who was very active throughout his life. Attempts to give new life to his activities were unfortunately ineffective and that is a shame because I feel that that was a useful society needed by everyone. A government decision to disband an association is always rare and is only used as a final solution when nothing else works to restore that organization to activity in accordance with its charter and Polish law.

[Question] How many such cases have there been recently?

[Answer] Recently, a total of 12 associations have been disbanded by government decision. Meanwhile, another 179 new ones were formed in 1984-1985.

[Question] Do we not have too many?

[Answer] There are certainly more than in any other country but that does not at all mean too many because their very number is a sign of public activity.

[Question] Only the public utilities associations can count on government help. How do the others manage to finance themselves?

[Answer] In various ways. Some of them are organizations with considerable financial resources (the Polish Tourist and Local Studies Society, the Polish Motorist's Association, and the Supreme Technical Organization) and others are poor (however, funds are also received by a number of registered national and local associations) and these include the scientific and especially the medical associations.

[Question] Are they unable to sell themselves?

[Answer] They could by giving tests or reports for money.

[Question] However, to do so they must have permission to conduct economic activity.

[Answer] Under reform, economic activity is by all means desirable and it is therefore not difficult to receive permission.

[Question] However, excessive concentration on economic activity also has its own bad sides.

[Answer] That is true and we have seen cases in which an organization, once it received permission, devoted the bulk of its attention to making as much money as possible and this clearly hurt the achievement of its charter goals. Another an equally undesirable phenomenon, especially under the present economic conditions, is the tendency to throw the costs of association activities over onto the state by trying to get funding, tax exemptions or reductions.

[Question] However, economic activity to produce funds for an association is something else entirely from making profits from activities in associations.

[Answer] Unfortunately, for many years now, we have seen a tendency for associations to give up achieving their goals through public efforts and turn to performing their activities for pay with the help of full-time employees (of which there are now some 70,000) or persons contracted for that purpose. These are often association officials who want to create for themselves a profitable source of income. We know of a case in which a member of one association and his wife made three million zlotys in one year through having work sent to him by that association.

[Question] This example shows that the right to form associations is sometimes understood and used in different ways.

[Answer] Indeed. However, let us not forget that the majority of the 18 million members of various Polish associations and public organizations are guided by a genuine social need to act.

SEJM DEFINES ROLE OF PEOPLES COUNCILS, SELF-GOVERNMENT

Warsaw MONITOR POLSKI in Polish, No 34, 30 Dec 86, Item No 259 pp 414-415

[“Resolution of the Sejm, of the P.P.R., dated 19 December 1986, on the Implementation of the Law on the System of Peoples Councils and Local Self-Government”]

[Text] The Sejm of the Polish People's Republic has found that in the more than two years in which the law on the system of peoples councils and local self-government has been in force, the social and political agreement of its provisions with the directions of socialist renewal started by the resolutions of the 9th Extraordinary Congress of the Polish United Worker's party and accepted in the party program passed by the 10th Congress has been confirmed. Its adherence to the concept and principles of economic reform which stipulate the decentralization of government and a stronger position for representative bodies and public self-government has also been confirmed.

The Sejm recognizes the active cooperation of the PZPR and its allied parties, political and social organizations and the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth as well as of state organs to fully implement the law.

The law on the system of peoples councils and local self-government has become an important constitutional instrument for creating the conditions for the enfranchisement of the peoples councils as masters of their regions and as the sponsors of initiatives for the economic and social development of villages, cities and regions.

This law has a special place among the normative acts establishing the system of law within the state. With regard to its constitutional significance, it should be regarded during all legislative activities as a normative act with whose provisions other laws cannot conflict. In connection with this, the Sejm asks the Council of State and Council of Ministers to review until the end of the current term of office in the peoples councils the existing laws and executive acts, especially those on administrative and financial law, so as to bring them into better agreement with the law on the system of peoples councils and local self-government.

Guided by concern for full realization of the intentions of the law, the Sejm recognizes that it is necessary for itself and especially for state organs to continue exerting a consistent effort to give the peoples councils the legal and economic foundations they need to make independent decisions on local issues.

For that reason, it is necessary in particular:

-- to stabilize, at least within the periods covered by the national social and economic plans, the income of peoples council budgets;

-- to give the councils full independence in how they manage extra income gained through their own enterprise or thrift;

-- to consistently realize the principle of the exclusive right of the peoples councils to manage the funds created at the provincial or village (town) level;

-- to assure progress in the decentralization of tasks and authorities by clearly defining the issues that come under the authority of the provincial peoples councils and which may be passed on on behalf of the primary class peoples councils and the issues that fall under the authority of the primary class peoples councils and can be passed on for review and decision by organs of resident self-government in cities and villages; to publicize good experiences in this area and provide constant methodical assistance to the peoples councils so that they can establish means of decentralizing power;

-- to define the principles of responsibilities that the bureau managers and treasuries bear to the peoples councils with regard to taxes gathered by the treasury on behalf of the councils.

The Sejm recognizes the growing independence of the peoples councils in social and economic planning and in setting, adopting and realizing local plans. The reinforcement of these tendencies is an important task for all state organs and will remain the special concern of the Sejm.

The Sejm asks the peoples councils to make broader use of their constitutional rights to bring their own plans into fuller accordance with social and economic plans and the plans of economic organizations in their regions.

The law also creates normative foundations for proper arrangement of organizational, legal and functional relationships between two important elements of local government -- the elected organs of state government and its executive organ, the local organ of state government. The Sejm expects the relations between these organs to continue growing in accordance with the constitutional position of the peoples councils and their superiority over local organs of state government. The growing quality of action and cooperation of these important elements of the system of popular rule should

foster the realization of local social and economic tasks and an increase in public participation in the resolution of public issues.

The peoples councils should improve their own style of work, prevent formalism in their activities and consistently monitor the realization of resolutions and programs, especially the realization of electoral postulates. An especially important task for the councils is the eliminate all signs of bureaucracy in their administrative activity, communal services and service centers.

The Sejm approves the information of the Council of State on realization of the 20 July 1983 law on the system of peoples councils and local self-government in the first half of the council terms of office. The Sejm asks the Presidium of the Sejm, the Council of State and the Council of Ministers to use the information and especially the specific conclusions to create the conditions by which the provisions of the law can be realized. The Sejm also expects that the present resolution will also be used for the same purpose.

The Sejm of the Polish Peoples Republic asks the Council of State to prepare and submit the latest information on the realization of the law and to implement the present resolution in the first half of 1988.

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CSO: 2600/369

SEJM RESOLUTION DEFINES WORKERS' SELF-MANAGEMENT

Warsaw MONITOR POLSKI in Polish No 34, 30 Dec 86, Item No 259 pp 410-412

[**"Resolution of the Sejm of the P.P.R. dated 10 December 1986, on the Functions of Workers' Self-Management in State Enterprises"**]

[Text] I.

The Sejm of the Polish Peoples Republic accepts the evaluation of the state of worker self-management and the realization of the law on worker self-management in state enterprises presented by the Commission of Self-Management.

The Sejm states that in the 5 years since the proclamation by the 9th Extraordinary Congress of the Polish United Workers Party of the program of socialist renewal and the passing of the law on state enterprises and worker self-management in state enterprises, both of which are the most important foundations of economic reform, there have been profound changes in the economic life of the country. The most dangerous signs of crisis have been overcome and in spite of its many difficulties, the nation's economy has begun to grow. The law's situation of the state enterprise as the primary independent entity of the national economy has passed proven its correctness.

The legislative conception of worker self-management with the unprecedented granting of the right to participate in enterprise management which is an important basis of economic democracy has proven its correctness. The idea and practice of self-management well fosters an increase in working-class participation in management of the economy. This in turn encourages a feeling of worker responsibility for efficient management, the creation of a good atmosphere for productive work and initiative and the association of the interests of the independent enterprise with the needs of society.

Self-management is functioning in nearly 95 percent of enterprises and its organs already represent more than 400,000 workers, engineers, technicians and economists. The elections for the second term of office of the self-management organs have proven worker support for the concept.

The Sejm expresses its recognition of worker self-management activists, workers, engineers, technicians and government workers performing important public service. We also give our recognition to party and social organizations, the peoples councils, the Patriotic Movement for national Rebirth, to scholars, writers and to all who have helped to consolidate the position and activities of self-management.

There are still great differences in activity and the extent to which self-management uses its rights. The rights most employed are those that concern planning matters, approval of balances, the division of profits and investments. Self-management still continues to make little use of its rights to advise, monitor or initiate.

Self-management organs have not shown sufficient initiative in presenting information and opinions to workers or in gaining their support in matters concerning the most important interests of the enterprise, especially in overcoming the management weaknesses that most influence worker opinions. An important source of increase activity among self-management organs would be keen analysis of their own work.

It is necessary to take effective actions to increase the legal possibilities for forming self-management councils and to increase their number in enterprises entitled to them by law and to set up these councils in factories and other organizational units of enterprises.

The Sejm approves the activity of the Self-Management Commission and its initiative to provide proper conditions for self-management activity and realization in practice of the Sejm's charge over self-management.

The Sejm shares the position of the 10th PZPR Congress on consistent implementation of economic reform and the permanence of an orientation toward worker self-management as an important constitutional principle of socialism.

In their activities and legislative work, all state organs should remember the creation of conditions favorable to the growth of self-management and the need to strongly combat any restriction of self-management rights.

The Sejm expresses its belief that the growth of worker self-management will encourage the continuation and improvement of the present government policy.

11.

The present and continually difficult economic situation, complicated problems and program for the growth of the nation included in the national social and economic plan outline for self-management unusually important tasks and at the same time create an opportunity for increasing the role of self-management in management and in meeting society's needs.

The Sejm asks all self-management officials to work consistently to introduce the principles of economic reform to their enterprise's activities and to support the directions adopted by the 10th PZPK Congress and specified by the 3rd Central Committee Plenum for improving its mechanisms. Greater efficiency of self-management action is needed, especially in matters involving:

- accelerating the growth of work productivity, more efficient work organization, full use of work time, strict observance of the relationship between work and wages and the spread of group forms of work organization;

- improving the use of materials and energy so that every enterprise can achieve the highest value of production;

- technical progress, more modern products and manufacturing technologies, a fundamental improvement of product quality, the growth of innovation in enterprises, encouragement of inventiveness and worker efficiency and use of opportunities for direct contacts with enterprises in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries;

- an increase in export production and the production of products to replace imported goods and equipment and the spread of profitable and lasting export specialization among firms.

The Sejm expects widespread participation and initiative from self-management in a national review of organizational structures and job certification.

All of these factors will help bring about the necessary acceleration, modernization and increased efficiency of the national economy, give Poland a worthwhile place in international trade and create possibilities for improving the living conditions of our society.

III.

The Sejm places great importance on proper relationships in enterprises between self-management organs, the directors and political and social organizations.

Of particular importance are the relations between self-management organs, directors and the trade unions. The most important basis of these relations is mutual respect of rights and an awareness of what needs to be done for the good of the enterprise and its role in the national economy and an awareness of what is good for the workers and society.

Enterprise directors should:

- take care to create real opportunities for the self-management organs to make the best decisions and make a serious effort to present the effects that proposed decision variants can have on the enterprise and national economy;

-- regularly inform the self-management organ about the state of the enterprise and the implementation of that organ's resolutions;
the decision

-- encourage the consolidation of self-management and its initiatives on issues facing the enterprise;

Such actions will form the basis for increased knowledge about the enterprise and increase the conscious support of workers for necessary actions to achieve more efficient management.

The self-management organs should encourage the directors' authority and support them in actions to achieve the best use of enterprise opportunities, efficient management and the selection of management personnel and support discipline requirements for higher productivity, quality and job safety.

Trade unions can do much to create a better climate among workers if self-management organs and the directors take an earnest attitude toward their opinions and recommendations. This is especially true in the question of the growth of the enterprise and the preservation of the fundamental principles of working out an agreement with the unions on issues of working conditions, wages, social enterprises and an energetic reaction to the recommendations and instructions of the public labor inspectorate.

The Sejm is satisfied to receive the program declared at the Congress of Reborn Polish Trade Unions and especially by the fact that the union movement as the defender and spokesman of worker rights and interests will direct its actions toward more efficient and modern management.

Self-management should create the proper conditions for their youth organizations and technical and economic associations to express their opinions, should use those recommendations and cooperate with these organizations to solve the problems of the enterprise.

The Sejm recognizes that a stronger position for enterprise directors should be accompanied by a growth in the position of worker self-management and a greater role of the enterprise in the country's economic system.

IV.

The Sejm recognizes that it is necessary to provide extensive and effective help to self-management organs and especially:

-- for founder's organs to introduce a system for training self-management officials in economics and law as well as the organization and methodology of self-management; the Council of State's Center for Self-Management Studies should play an inspirational and coordinating role in these matters;

-- to organize legal help for self-management organs and especially consultation on their rights and the principles of their organization as well as legal representation in court cases; it is necessary to create more consultative teams that should operate within the Self-Management Commission, the provincial deputies teams and the presidiums of the provincial people's councils;

-- to continue the organization of conferences of self-management officials both through the Self-Management Commission as well as the founder's organs and the people's councils; these conferences should serve discussion of self-management tasks and experiences and the conditions for the growth of self-management under the given situation in the country;

-- to consistently preserve the principles of cooperation between external control organs and self-management organs during monitoring of enterprises; the opinions of the self-management organs should be sought and the results of the monitoring action should be reported to them.

Cooperation between worker self-management and the peoples councils is especially important for them to realize their legal functions and conduct joint enterprises. This is necessary to the social and economic development of the cities and regions, improvement of housing construction and cultural activity, environmental protection as well as improvement in living and working conditions and health protection in worker communities represented by self-management. The peoples councils should use the initiatives and recommendations of worker self-management organs and see that their legal rights are protected.

V.

The Sejm recognizes the growing interest that academic institutes, higher schools and all public opinion research centers have in studies about self-management and the conditions under which it functions.

It is necessary to more closely coordinate the directions of studies and the use of their results for recognizing the actual state and phenomena and mechanisms favoring or hindering the activity of self-management organs and determining their position among workers. To a greater extent than before, the subject of studies should be the practical experiences of self-management activity.

The Sejm asks press writers, television and radio to continue presenting the achievements and difficulties of self-management activity and to publicize its experiences as well as to fight everything that attacks the socialist character of self-management.

The Sejm recognizes that it is necessary to improve the process by which economic laws are made. Such law plays an unusually important role in controlling economic processes, in best influencing economic reform and in

creating the conditions necessary for a growth in self-management. Experiences from the introduction of economic reform have confirmed the need to create a system of extensive and systematic scientific studies of the effectiveness of economic law and prognoses of the economic and social effects of changes to the law.

A strong component of the establishment of economic law should be consultation with worker self-management and other interested groups about new regulations. The extent of these consultations should vary according to the nature and importance of the changes.

In taking care for the growth of self-management, the Sejm will also examine the realization of this resolution during its review of the state of self-management and the realization of the law on worker self-management in state enterprises.

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REGIONAL PLENUM WORKERS CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL ORGANIZED

Rzeszow NOWINY in Polish 13 Jan 87 pp 1,2

[Article by Jerzy Nawrocki: "Worker's Consultative Council Formed in Rzeszow -- a Partner For the Government"]

[Text] (Own information) A resolution of the 10th PZPR Congress recommends the creation from the party and non-party aktiv of groups associated with the party instances. The first sign of realization of the resolution was given yesterday in Rzeszow by the activity of the Worker's Consultative Council of the Rzeszow Provincial PZPR Committee.

As the council chairman, Andrzej Kedzior of the Rzeszow Zelmer Plant, said, the council will give its opinions on documents prepared by the provincial PZPR committee and some by the PZPR Central Committee. The opinions will serve both to familiarize workers with the content of the documents and provide an opportunity for workers to voice their own remarks and proposals.

The council will hold meetings once a month. The inaugural session was attended by the leaders of the Rzeszow Provincial PZPR Committee under its first secretary, Franciszek Karp.

Sincere speeches were made about the need to increase export trade, improve product quality and to find means of improving work organization. There was also discussion of agriculture, design work and construction.

Someone asked why why one person is thinking up an innovation and the other is trying to find ways to stop him.

Here are some fragments of other speakers' remarks:

"We do not lack hands willing to work in our factories. The money made in this manner must be divided between those who take on increased responsibilities".

"Workers' opinions about economic teams were not at all as critical as some wanted them to be. They have contributed much good wherever their existence was fully justifiable".

"If a three-man crew has a foreman and an entire 7-man shift also has a superintendent, then one of these two is certainly necessary".

During the second half of the meeting which was attended by the chairman of the Rzeszow Provincial Court, Aleksandr Oleszko, the subject of the public ombudsman was discussed.

In this too were opinions varied. Most felt that a public ombudsman is a necessary institution but should be given the instruments that it needs to act. In other words, should this office be established, it must be able to influence the issues in which it takes an interest.

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LAWYERS PLENUM STUDIES REFORM'S LEGAL ASPECTS

Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 20-21 Dec 86 p 8

[Article by [Or.]: "Law In the Economy -- Plenum of the Chief Directorate of the Polish Lawyer's Association"]

[Text] (Own information) "The Role of Law in the National Economy" was the subject of the 19 December plenum of the Chief Directorate of the Polish Lawyer's Association. A report presented by Dr Bohdan Zdziennicki stated that long-term work to create stable and coherent legal regulations on the reformed economy are necessary to overcome the many present weaknesses of the law. The civil code must also be changed along with its accompanying laws so that they can better meet the needs of large-scale domestic business and foreign trade. The labor code also needs to be very carefully adapted to the requirements of reform. There also exists the need for unified standardization of the basic principles of organization and activities in the realm of finance. Finance law will even have to be codified at some time in the future.

Dr Zdziennicki said that much greater independence for economic entities will increase the possibility of conflicts between them. For that reason then, correct norms for the settlement of disputes in large-scale business are of enormous importance to the proper functioning of our economic model. The present solutions (authority divided between arbitration, common courts and the Supreme Administrative Court) are not satisfactory. They should be very carefully reformed.

The report also presented some specific recommendations. The first of these was to prevent haste in the creation of new regulations and the second was to not publicize bills before they have been completed. The third recommendation was to limit any excess of instrumentalism in the approach taken to law. Changes cannot be made to fit the desires of the moment but rather as much as possible in accordance with the general trends of economic reform and existing regulations. The fourth and final recommendation was to rigorously follow the principles of legislative technique and the established process for the creation of law.

The discussion placed a strong emphasis on the fact that consistent introduction of reform must be accompanied by consistent application of the law as its instrument. Attention was also directed at the role of legal advisors in the adaptation of economic law. It was pointed out that the finalization of work on the law on the creation of law would have enormous significance to the establishment of its role as the moderator of the national economy.

The plenum was chaired by Docent Adam Zielinski, the chairman of the Chief Directorate of the Polish Lawyer's Association.

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DEFENSE COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD

Zielona Gora on Public Order, Military School

Zielona Gora GAZETA LUBUSKA in Polish 23 Jan 87 pp 1,2

[Article by [sz.]: "Meeting of the Provincial Defense Committee in Zielona Gora -- Selection of Candidates to Military Trade Schools -- State of Public Safety and Order"]

[Text] At yesterday's meeting of the Provincial Defense Committee in Zielona Gora, the course of this year's selection of candidates for military trade schools was discussed. In this regard, Zielona Gora Province ranks first in the Silesian Military District. Last year's cadets from the province, 2nd lieutenants Zbigniew Bezdel and Kazimierz Pulkowski, respectively were 1st and 3rd in their graduating class at the Higher School for marine officers and 2nd Lt Tadeusz Winiewski was 3rd in his class at the Higher School for Tank Troop Officers.

It was stressed that from several secondary schools such as those in Krosno Odrzanskie, Gubin, Zary and Zielona Gora, many candidates each year apply to various military schools and finish with good, very good and excellent grades. It was also however pointed out that the physical education programs in secondary and primary schools need improvement because the candidates for the military trade schools have shortcomings in this regard and this often poses an obstacle to their plans and ambitions.

This year, it is planned that cadets will visit schools to meet youth interested in military service in military higher schools and units.

Information was presented on the state of public safety and order. Generally speaking, criminality has dropped in the province. The absolute number of crimes against human life and property has diminished. About 67 percent of the perpetrators of various crimes are unemployed persons under the influence of alcohol. Unfortunately, the percentage of youthful criminals has risen. About 76 percent of all crimes committed in the province took place in the cities, mostly in Zielona Gora, Nowa Sol, Zary, Krosno Odrzanskie and Zagan.

More than 82 percent of the criminals were apprehended and that is higher than the national average. This year, there will be a big emphasis on crime prevention and the creation of a broad public front for crime control.

In the name of the Provincial Defense Committee, its chairman, Governor Zbyszko Piwonski, thanked the province's police for having achieved such good results in crime prevention and control.

Przemysl Notes Anti-Pathology Drive Success

Rzeszow NOWINY in Polish 21 Jan 87 p 1

[Article by [un]: "Changes For the Better Seen"]

[Text] (Own information) Law enforcement activities, crime suppression and various actions to prevent crime have been conducted with great energy and consistency by law enforcement organs and the courts and this has led to an obvious limitation of the effects of social pathology and greater discipline among the province's inhabitants. This was the opinion given by the Przemysl Provincial Defense Committee at its first meeting of this year. The meeting which also presented an evaluation of the present state of public order in this region was attended by General of Arms Jozef Uzycki, member of the National Defense Committee and chief of the Polish Army General Staff.

During the meeting, the course of realization of personal and material benefits for national defense and recruitment for military trade schools were also discussed.

Local Economy Evaluated in Olaszyn Meeting

Olsztyn GAZETA OLSZTYNSKA in Polish 30 Jan 87 p 2

[Article by [Kam]: "Meeting of the Olaszyn Provincial Defense Committee

[Text] Evaluation of the economy of Olaszyn province in the last year was the subject of Friday's meeting of the Olaszyn Provincial Defense Committee. Aside from the regular committee members, also present were representatives of the banks, Supreme Chamber of Control, State Trade Inspectorate, Treasury and Provincial Bureau of Internal Affairs. Negative signs in many places of employment were pointed out and these included poor organization of production and service processes, bad use of working time, high energy and power consumption and inefficient internal controls. A lack of progress in improving the quality of goods and services was also seen as alarming.

Last year, the State Trade Inspectorate monitored the quality of 3960 lots of goods and services. It turned out that half of them were below the standard norms. The deteriorating situation with the quality of goods and services is shown by the following comparison: 25 percent of the tested samples of baked goods and 23 percent of the meat products were rejected in 1985 while last

year, the figures were 31 and 28 percent, respectively. Businesses are complaining about the monopoly enjoyed by producers because it prevents them from obtaining the necessary quality of products.

1986 was the latest successful year for agriculture in Olsztyn Province. There were increased harvests of grain, root crops and legumes. There was also a clear increase in livestock production and especially hogs. However, the drop in the production of cattle and especially cows was not arrested and this led to a milk shortage. This has occurred despite the fact that Olsztyn Province has a large amount of pasture lands. Considering these and other economic phenomena, the Provincial Defense Committee formulated many suggestions for industrial and service establishments and they were: better use of supplies, equipment and materials (especially local raw materials) and improvement of product quality as well as a reduction in production costs and an improvement in work discipline. For agriculture, the most important problem is to stop any further drop in the production of livestock. Greater emphasis must also be placed on individual housing construction. This will require more financing of the construction of new housing and better management of existing single-family dwellings.

Public Order Successes Noted in Nowy Sacz

Krakow GAZETA KRAKOWSKA in Polish 30 Jan 87 p 2

[Article by [ss]: "Meeting of the Nowy Sacz Provincial Defense Committee"]

[Text] (Own information) Analyzing the state of public order in 1986, the Nowy Sacz Provincial Defense Committee under its chairman, Governor Antoni Raczka, praised the enormous effort made by law enforcement organs and courts as well as specialized government organs in actions to protect the public interests. The committee also outlined tasks for the protection of law and order in the coming year, stressing that the work of the services professionally employed in the protection of public order require greater social support.

Youth Issues Observed in Sieradz Meeting

Lodz GLOS ROBOTNICZY in Polish 27 Jan 87 p 2

[Article by BS: "'Meeting of the Sieradz Provincial Defense Committee"]

[Text] Yesterday, on 26 January, the Sieradz Provincial Defense Committee held a meeting led by its chairman, Col Henryk Szafranowski in which it praised the realization of plans for the patriotic and defense training of society and especially youth in 1986 and also approved a plan of action for further such training programs in 1987.

Attention was directed at the need to find completely new ways of organizing patriotic and defense events to make them more attractive and involve the greatest number of youth.

The Provincial Defense Committee also evaluated the activities and growth of the Volunteer Reserve of Citizen's Militia [ORMO], the functioning of regional ORM0 staffs and the participation of ORM0 members in maintaining law and order. The committee stressed the need for popularizing the activities of ORM0 as an important organization in the maintenance of law and order in the province and also expressed recognition for the activities of this organization in the resolution of this discussed problems.

12261

CSO: 2600/403

REGIONAL CIVIL DEFENSE ISSUES, TASKS STUDIED

Lodz GLOS ROBOTNICZY in Polish 31 Dec 86 - 1 Jan 87 p 6

[Article by [MAJ]: Civil Defense in Ozorkow"]

[Text] During the passing year, the authorities in Ozorkow have placed great emphasis to the realization of civil defense tasks that are, for example, of great importance in eliminating the effects of disasters.

One of the most important achievements has been the implementation of the provisions of updated legal standards on protecting the civilian population, the introduction of corrections to the organizational structure of civil defense formations and the creation of new formations on the orders of the director of Provincial Civil Defense.

In 1986, members of the Ozorkow Civil Defense conducted more than 1000 hours and about 200,000 zlotys worth of public work on behalf of the city. Much time was also devoted to the training of directorial personnel and new formations. Aside from the Civil Defense leadership, the non-working population of Ozorkow also received training.

There was an extensive propaganda campaign, especially among school youth which participated in a competition to prepare a showcase of information on civil defense problems.

12261

CSO: 2600/404

SURVEY REVEALS CYNICAL ATTITUDE TOWARD JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Warsaw PRZEGLAD TYGODNIOWY in Polish No 39, 28 Sep 86 p 3

[Article by Andrzej W. Malachowski: "Justice -- How Do We See It? "]

[Text] For many people the courts are above all an institution that guards the interests of the state rather than that of individuals. Regardless of the circumstances, it is always a big event to go to court. Some court decisions have aroused public emotions. Public opinion always takes a very careful look at organs of law enforcement and justice. Sometimes the public is critical of their excessive indolence in the prosecution of crime and sometimes they accuse them of excessive severity.

It is quite understandable that an individual's attitude to the courts and prosecutors depends on his or her own experiences but also on certain common stereotypes. This has been confirmed by the results of polls taken by the Public Opinion Research Center [CBOS], fragments of which have already been published in issue 31 of PRZEGLAD TYGODNIOWY in the article, "Are We Law-Abiding?".

However, what is the attitude of the poll participants to two institutions that are the most important links in the justice system and law enforcement?

Most generally speaking, one can say that the attitude toward courts is fairly critical and that people are sceptical about their fairness and efficiency. For example, half of the poll respondents felt that court proceedings are too drawn out, take up too much time and money and have little effect.

With regard to the prosecutor's office, people know fairly little about how it functions and their attitudes are mostly based on popular opinions. Most people associate that institution with the prosecution of criminals, the realization of investigations, court indictments and all of the other functions that office fulfills to repress crime but which are also only a part of its responsibilities. Respondents very seldom saw any other role of this institution and only a few of them believed that one of its tasks is to protect the rights of individuals in court.

Only a little more than 12 percent of respondents knew that one of the prosecutor's tasks is to prevent crime and to monitor the observance of law in state bureaus and economic entities.

It also turned out that 60 percent of the poll's respondents had already at some time in the past looked for help when they had been wronged by a state institution or individual but only four percent of them had complained to the office of the prosecutor. The remainder tried other means of redress for the suffered wrongs.

For various reasons, it is not a popular practice to take problems to court. For example, 47 percent of the respondents felt that it would be more efficient to resolve matters in a specialized bureau and only one-third felt that the best answer would be to take the issue to court. A somewhat smaller percent (27 percent) of the respondents were in turn convinced that it was best to complain to radio, television or the press and 20 percent or one out of 5 felt preferred going to social or political organizations. It is worth adding that 16 percent would try to use personal connections to settle a case and and four percent would simply offer a bribe.

As we see, at least part of society feels that it is better to get justice outside of the courts and it is an especially popular practice to complain wherever one can. There is also a lot of faith in the power of the mass media to intervene in disputes.

However, it must be pointed out that popular opinions about how to see justice done can vary widely according to age, profession, affiliation to political or social organizations, previous experience or even the fact that a relative of the respondent may be connected with the justice system.

For example, the older one is, the more he or she may believe in the power of the mass media. At the same time, farmers and unskilled workers have the greatest faith in the police. Intellectuals and white-collar workers most often rely on informal means such as acquaintances and personal connections. The same approach is used by persons with acquaintances of relatives employed by the court system. More often than non-party members, PZPR members seek to redress wrongs by complaining to various organizations or to the prosecutor's office. The courts are chosen most often by those who have already had positive experiences with them.

Does everyone have an equal chance in court? That is a fundamental question because it concerns justice in general. Nearly half of the respondents feel that their chances in court would be unequal and therefore dependent on their material, social or political position.

The people that have the least amount of faith in the courts are intellectuals, people who have had what they felt to be a negative experience in court and surprisingly enough, those who have learned something about how the courts function from acquaintances or relatives.

Generally speaking, the poll respondents felt that more affluent people and those with a higher place in the social hierarchy have a better chance of winning in court. Meanwhile, to a lesser degree did respondents blame differences in the treatment of the accused on imperfections in the legal system or any political partiality of the courts.

It must be added that the poll determined opinions on the fairness and impartiality of the courts by asking how the courts treat any conflicts between workers and their place of employment. A little more than one-fourth of the respondents had complete trust in the courts and said that they make impartial and fair decisions. However, nearly one half felt that the courts more often protect the employer and only some 5 percent felt that the courts were on the worker's side. This means that for most of the respondents, the court is above all an institution that guards the interests of the state rather than those of the individual.

This view was most often expressed by both skilled and unskilled blue-collar workers while mental workers said that the courts are impartial and fair. In turn, the intelligentsia were most often of the opinion that the courts protect the worker.

Opinions were also varied about whether or not everyone receives the same punishment for the same crime. Nearly 80 percent of those questioned felt that a sentence is determined by the social position of the defendant. Party members and persons that have had positive experiences in court most often said that the courts are impartial. Meanwhile, those familiar with the administration of justice indirectly through relatives or friends or directly through their own unpleasant experiences in court were sceptical about how fairly the courts sentence people in relation to their social background.

The minority of respondents were also convinced that the prosecutors are fair. Only somewhat less than one-fifth felt that all accused persons were treated the same way and little less than one half believed that one's treatment in court depends on social background. It was most of all the representatives of the intelligentsia or business and services employees who felt that the courts do not treat all persons impartially and that people highly placed in the state hierarchy, the wealthy and those with personal connections are given preferential treatment. Despite popular opinions on the matter, police officers, party officials and people connected with the justice system were much less often mentioned in this regard. A very small number (1.5 percent) of the respondents said that people accused of political crimes were more poorly treated by the courts.

The respondents spoke very harshly about prosecutors improperly discontinuing certain cases and that constitutes a very serious accusation of the violation of legality. Nearly half gave no answer. The remainder were more or less divided into three equal groups who believed that respectively, such cases are often, seldom and nonexistent or very rare.

Generally, there were few respondents that accused prosecutors of breaking the law but about one-third did perceive some irregularity in the work of prosecutors.

It is quite understandable that few people want to go to court. There are even quite a few who would rather drop a case or find other means of settling their disputes. For example, according to half of the respondents, the main reason people drop a case rather than go to court is a desire to avoid public scrutiny of their personal business. Other reasons are the inconveniences of contact with the courts, drawn-out proceedings and high court costs as well as critical perceptions on court efficiency (lack of faith in justice and the chances of having one's rights confirmed). Many people also wish to avoid the emotional stress that usually goes along with court cases. This was the reason most often given by women, the elderly and anyone who has already had some experience (even positive) in court. In sum, the majority of respondents (and it can be assumed that this is what most of the public feels) did not want to appear in court either as a witness or as the plaintiff (in the CBOS poll, 57 percent of the respondents expressed an unwillingness to be a witness and 63.1 percent would not appear as a plaintiff).

About 40 percent felt that the courts pass fair sentences while 39 percent believed that they pass an equal number of fair and unfair sentences. Another 6 percent felt that the sentences were in most cases unfair. The remainder did not express an opinion.

The respondents who felt some reservations about court decisions gave various reasons. One third of them blamed the corruption of court employees and another third felt that there was a lack of inquisitiveness and procedural imperfections such as lack of evidence, concurrent hearing of cases, etc. Some 20 percent also indicated perjury and false evidence by witnesses and one-fifth blamed unfair decisions on political interference in the work of the courts.

Does something in the working of the courts have to be changed so that they will not be criticized by the public? This question turned out to be too hard for one-fifth of the respondents to answer. At the same time, 6 percent said that nothing should be changed. Among those who feel that court functioning should be corrected, more than one-fourth expected everyone to receive equal consideration by the law and another fourth wanted greater efficiency including reduced court time, the introduction of greater discipline and punctuality in the conduct of proceedings. Ten percent wanted the courts to be independent of the government apparatus and not operate under any pressure.

As the CBOS poll of 1498 persons shows, opinions about courts and prosecutors depend on many factors. The opinions are a mixture of truth and stereotypes. After all, they do not answer the question of what the courts and prosecutors are really like, how they function or whether they are fair. The poll only reflected the opinions and feelings of a certain part of society.

It must be remembered that all evaluations must be carefully formulated. At the same time, however, it is alarming that there are signs of little faith in getting justice through the courts, a clear drop in the prestige of judges and a fairly widespread belief (in every fifth respondent) that disputes can be settled informally, through connections, acquaintances or through bribes.

12261

CSO: 2600/375

RADIO-TV OFFICIAL ON MEDIA ROLE, VCR PROLIFERATION

Warsaw PRZEGLAD TYGODNIOWY in Polish 7 Dec 86 pp 1, 4-5

[Interview with Janusz Roszkowski, Chairman, Radio and Television Affairs Committee, by Artur Nowzan and Jan Ruranski: "There Are No Taboo Subjects"]

[Excerpts] [Answer] I have been here only four months and have come to know an institution of uncommon magnitude if one considers the tasks it realizes. What comes out of the screen and speaker are the final result but that is only the tip of the iceberg. One does not see the the work of thousands that goes into it all.

[Question] But the viewer and listener is not interested in the background or the efforts of the creators. All anyone wants is a good program.

[Answer] I know but still want everyone to know what an enormous institution we have.

[Question] To put it simply, it is a giant.

[Answer] That is not really the right word but in a certain sense, well yes, let it be a giant: three television programs on two channels, 5 radio programs, our own film production (twice as large as the entire Polish film industry), the presentation of theater performances, any one of which is seen by more people at once than in all the theaters of Poland, musical groups, choirs, our own research groups, export, import. Please imagine an automobile factory with several thousand workers. Following a series of research projects, such a factory more or less calmly mass-produces its given models but for us, every program is a prototype and one of its kind.

[Question] The Television Chronicle [DT], for example.

[Answer] I repeat, every program is so, but in sniffing out that pinch of irony, I disagree with you. Essentially, informational and editorial programs leave much to be desired. It is a fact that the news programs and especially the 7:30 broadcast have an enormous number of viewers, 15 million or more,

almost all of the adult population. Neither radio nor the press can compete with that. In the newspapers, readers find information that has already been presented on the television news or, to be frank, should have been presented. However, that is not always the case. The selection of information is not always complete and remains too narrow. There is not enough time or skill to report everything.

[Question] Skill indeed! That is the right and let us say bearable ability to present the news. We saw the news on Saturday, 23 November at 7:30 and it was almost exclusively from the conferences. You are an experienced practicing journalist. How can you reconcile the tendencies of various groups that pressure for the recording and reporting of so many of this type of "events" with the need for information on events that affect the everyday lives of television audiences?

[Answer] It seems that we are getting into political questions. I would like to state quite clearly that viewers expect us to present certain types of information and skip the more burdensome subjects. That is quite obvious and understandable. However, no one tells us just how we are to accomplish that. Every conference of meeting deals with a set problems that may be most important of all to some of us. It makes no sense to just show tables and chairs and the subject of the meeting. The television news must and shall inform viewers what the conference did rather than just the fact that it took place. It is not just a matter of conferences either. We would like for the Television Chronicle to be a genuine reflection of Polish life and objectively record what is going on at both the top and bottom of society. And it must be fast because he who speaks first speaks most credibly. In the conveyance of news from home and abroad, he who gives the news first is the one that counts most. Whoever gives the news second, even with his own added commentary, loses because he has to refute a specific view that may already exist in the viewer's mind. It must much easier to create an opinion than to change one.

[Question] That is true, all the more so as mass media and propaganda have made real progress to which the Television Chronicle remains an outsider.

[Answer] Are you waiting for a declaration? We do not willingly betray our proposals and concepts but I will try. This is our general assumption: there will not be any more broadcasts or any longer ones. We wonder whether it makes any sense to broadcast the same DT on two programs simultaneously at 7:30. On channel 2, we will move the so-called main DT up to a 20-minute broadcast at 9:20. All of the broadcasts will have to improve their quality and present the information quickly and in an attractive, modern form. We have already done something in that regard. How hard it is to do so, you know quite well because you both worked once for our firm.

Finally, we will have to work better with the politicians and public figures that go up before the microphones and it depends a great deal on our journalists, scenographers and cameramen how these people look before the camera and even how they speak. And it depends on more than just the people I

named. DT uses the language of prepared communiques of the Polish Press Agency.

[Question] Of which you were the chairman.

[Answer] But I do not want to say that it is bad language. Generally, speaking, it is correct but those are printed words.

[Question] Indeed. From your center's public opinion research which we published in PRZEGLAD TYGODNIOWY a week ago, we see that the "Teleexpress" show is a hit and that its popularity is continually growing.

[Answer] Exactly. It is not only a matter of language. One must also properly select information, avoid stereotypes and not fall into a routine. You cannot present the world in black and white. The greatest threat to our credibility is the infantile manner in which social and political reality is presented in black and white categories. We have fallen into a certain trend of creating a simplified view of the world in which with us in the socialist countries, everything is good and peaceful while with them, the capitalists, everyone is homeless, unemployed and there is nothing but catastrophes, strikes and demonstrations. We have to enrich our forms of argumentation because we cannot get around the fact that many highly-developed capitalist countries have a well-run economy and that they also produce better products than we do. However, we must also give a convincing picture of the differences in our systems and prove that we divide what we produce much more fairly.

[Question] Our television, like many others in the world, is a state enterprise representing the interests of the government. How can it then criticize the government too?

[Answer] There is no contradiction there. Television is a state institution, that is a fact, but this does not mean that it is required to say only good things about the government. Radio and television not only provide information but also serve certain social functions, one of which is to convey public criticism.

[Question] But does any criticism of the government have any great chance?

[Answer] Why not? There are many critical programs for which we are later criticized by government representatives and ministers. Sometimes they even become insulted and often, their objections are not justified.

[Question] For example?

[Answer] Not long ago, at a conference of the OPZZ [National Trade Union Confederation] dedicated to economic issues which was attended by the present vice-premier and several ministers, there was sharp criticism of government documents. In his report on this conference, our correspondent only quoted

two of the OPZZ representatives without even mentioning the names of the government members or anything they said. That is not right. We must report it whenever there are disagreements and differences of opinion. I must also add that we cannot be just passive observers. We live in a certain state and form of government and have to represent certain views.

[Question] Does this mean that radio and television have some sort of "political restrictions" on their program?

[Answer] There are no political restrictions that would affect the content or quality of programs. There should not be any blotted out areas in the topics covered by our journalists nor any taboo subjects. Since 11 September, we have had a new political and social situation. Everything that takes place within the superstructure must be different and adapted to the needs of the present moment. That is especially true of such a hot medium as television.

[Question] And which of the foreign films would you choose? "Emanuelle"? "The Great Grub"? "The Story of 'O'"?

[Answer] I have already made that choice and it was "Here Is America", an uncommon documentary film, the first part of which we showed last week. We do not fear such creative extremes if they have some documentary or artistic value. However, eroticism and just any controversial deviation cannot be an end in itself. It is easy to shock but harder to foresee the effects of showing ethically and morally dubious films to millions of viewers. No television network does this. After all, why are these items not even in Polish film libraries? It would be easy to control whose gets to see the films and children and young people could be kept out. However, anyone can watch television and a notice of "for adults only" would draw young viewers like a magnet. By the way, whenever we are revolted by the film repertoire, let us remember that it also has a rich selection of ambitious works such as the films of Bergman, Herzog or Woody Allen. There is no shortage of good films, especially on channel 2.

[Question] We now have about half a million VCR's in Poland. Before long, we will be seeing neighborhood cable television. If you do not offer viewers good programs, you will lose them because they can always turn to video. If you do not show people what they want to see, they can always get it on cassettes.

[Answer] Then as I supposed to lower the quality of programming?

[Question] No, we just want to show you the problem facing television when it loses its monopoly on filling free time.

[Answer] You are right about one thing. New times require new content and new means of speaking to people. This is no longer the time to take a nonchalant attitude toward the television audiences and fail to see the changes in their awareness. I think, and I said so recently at the PZPR

conference in our establishment, that the present forms have about exhausted themselves. We must find new means of effectively influencing public attitudes and overcome our own tendencies toward routine and worn-out easy topics.

[Question] In the past 6 years, you have been the 6th chairman of the Radio Committee.

[Answer] That does not encourage me either. I know that the radio and television people and the entire confederation of groups with different interests, ambitions and wishes might look at me and see the next "broon". That may even incline some to feel that "there's nothing to worry about, we'll survive him too". Such a phenomenon must exist even though it does have a negative effect on the functioning of any institution. Both the employees and the boss of any institution must have certain elementary feelings of stability.

[Question] The employees of the Radio Committee have not had such a feeling of job security for years now.

[Answer] I am not calling for any personnel firings. But there will be changes because there must be as all growth depends on changes but they will be natural changes owing to the need to improve quality. We will be giving a preference to skill, competence and creative potential. People with attributes such as these will have a future with us while the weak, average and mediocre will come to the conclusion that it is not worth remaining in last place and will find other jobs on their own. Therefore, returning to the start of our conversation and the feeling of job security, it is something that is necessary to plan anything years in advance. If journalists filming the conversation with Koch had any such feeling, they would most certainly have prepared a suitable program in time.

[Question] And with that, let us end our conversation. We thank you and wish you a long and successful career if that is something that is generally possible in television.

12261

CSO: 2600/370

WORKER UNREST, CALL FOR STRIKES, MINORITY PROBLEMS

Leaflets Urge Workers To Strike

Frankfurt FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG in German 2 Feb 87 p 2

[Article by V. M.: "Romanian Leaflets Urge Strikes--If We had Meat, It Would Be Just Like During the War"]

[Text] Vienna, Feb 1--Western circles in Bucharest report that about two weeks ago leaflets showed up in the Romanian capital with a call directed to all Romanians to oppose Ceausescu's rule. The leaflets have been reported to call upon Romanians to put down their work on Jan 23, two days before Ceausescu's birthday which is always celebrated with great pomp. The distributed leaflets apparently contained, among other phrases, the phrase "the authorities cannot touch us as long as we are many." Nobody knows if this call was heeded anywhere in Romania, but during the last weeks, many reports from Romania have appeared in the West telling of work stoppages and especially of sit-down strikes. It will take some time to verify such reports because of the slow trickle of travellers in and out of Romania.

Romania's population has to weather the third consecutive winter under circumstances worse than during the times of the Second World War and the post-war period. A witticism with a bitter edge, frequently heard in Romania, says: "If we had some meat now, it would be just like during the war." The country's mood is apparently extraordinarily bad. In December, it became known that fuel supplies for power plants would almost certainly not last through the winter. At the same time, the most necessary food items were even more tightly rationed. Romanians have to stand in line--over and over again. A kilogram of coffee currently costs 1,200 Lei on the black market, almost half an average monthly income. Heavy snowfalls followed by cold temperatures have aggravated the situation among the population during the last two weeks. Travelling by private car is forbidden and traffic between cities is sharply restricted. Several parts of the country are said to experience near famine conditions because of the bad traffic situation.

As so many times before, Ceausescu released numbers before the Party's Executive Committee which claimed a favorable production for industry and agriculture during the last year. He had to admit, however, that 1986 exports have dropped by 11 percent compared to the previous year. The Romanian leader explained that sharply decreased world market prices paid for the country's exported petroleum products are to blame.

Relations With Soviets

Frankfurt FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG in German 3 Mar 87 p 6

[Article by V. M.: "Strikes in Romania--Ceausescu Criticizes Hungarian Historiography"]

[Text] Vienna, Mar 2--Romania's head of state and party leader, Ceausescu, took a very strong stand before selected representatives of Romania's German and Hungarian minorities against the "History of Siebenbuergen", a three-volume publication by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Ceausescu refrained from mentioning by name either the publication or its editor, the Hungarian historian and current Minister of Culture Kopeczi; he did, however, chastize the Hungarian Academy for its omission of great deeds performed with apparent historical certitude by the Dacians and Romanians in Siebenbuergen, and by having done so, he charged the Academy with a disregard for "things held in common." Ceausescu added that it is hard to understand the reasons behind this "re-run of Horthyese, fascist, chauvinist, and even racist theses" and the decision of the Academy of Sciences to publish texts that are "an insult to other nations." Ceausescu questioned the value of such scientific endeavors and said that "only the most reactionary and imperialistic circles" are likely to profit by them.

Ceausescu also referred indirectly to the extensive restrictions on the import of publications from Hungary. He wondered how anybody can agree to an "expansion" of the import of printed matter from Hungary when it is so full of "insults directed at the workers of our country." He also expressed the hope that "our Hungarian neighbor" will realize soon that it is high time to again consider working together on a common basis.

The word in Budapest is that Hungary has decided to view as failures all attempts at quiet diplomacy with Ceausescu to effect an improvement in the lives of the near 2 million Hungarians who make their homes in Siebenbuergen. The degree of oppression and want among its minority is believed to have reached a point where it is necessary to go public.

Ceausescu's speech before the selected minority representatives had a defensive tenor. The Romanian leader defended Romania's alleged economic "achievements" and stressed, as so many times before, the supposed "equality" of minorities. He protested against "meddling by outsiders." A certain nervousness on Ceausescu's part could have been an indication that the notion of "meddling by outsiders" has assumed a new dimension under Gorbachov, and that clearly worries him. A few days ago, Ceausescu said in a speech that Romania is ready to cooperate with all countries "on a broad scale", but that he is determined to oppose "the mechanical and dogmatic copying of foreign experiences and practices."

Reports out of Romania indicate that Ceausescu is burdened with increasing pressure from several areas. In this third consecutive, catastrophic winter, Romania's economic situation is as critical as hardly ever before, especially with regard to the supply of energy which seems to depend increasingly on the

Soviet Union. Moscow announced that Romania has received 6.3 million tons of oil in 1986 as compared to 2.1 million tons the previous year. Romania paid for 14 percent of this oil with high quality foodstuffs. This indicates that the Soviet oil was either not at all or only partially sold under a clearing agreement. The transaction was probably conducted on a basis of so-called "hard goods" with payment in foreign currency.

Visitors to Romania confirm that strikes are imminent everywhere because of a supply situation nearly out of control. Incidents have been reported when people are standing for hours on end in food lines. Visitors also mention that the extreme difficulties created for Romania by Ceausescu's policies and the influence exerted by Gorbachov increasingly creates a sentiment among government officials that the Ceausescu era is likely to come to an end at some occasion or other, and that it might already be advisable to assess the interests of the nation beyond Ceausescu's rule and to protect them accordingly. Increasingly erratic and inappropriate orders issued by the "conductor" himself or by his wife are either quietly ignored or changed. Ceausescu confirmed such occurrences a few days ago when he accused certain officials of "sabotage."

13196/5915

CSO: 2300/203

PROGRESS IN HOUSING SURVEYED

Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 25 Feb 87 p 4

[Article by Eng Jiri Stickel and Eng Milena Vesela, Federal Statistical Office: "Better in Some Things, Worse in Others"]

[Text] Within the framework of social and economic development in Czechoslovakia, great attention and considerable resources are being devoted to the construction of apartment units. In the period 1971 through 1985, some 1,778,000 new apartment units were built, representing 31.3 percent of the apartment inventory as of the end of 1985. Although, in comparison with 1980, the number of newly built apartment units declined in Czechoslovakia during the period 1981-1985, Czechoslovakia continues to enjoy one of the highest levels of new apartment construction per 1,000 inhabitants and, with respect to the intensity of apartment construction, stands in first place in Europe. In 1985, higher levels of intensity in apartment construction were recorded only by Finland and Switzerland.

Currently, the majority of newly built apartment units in Czechoslovakia has three and more rooms. In 1985, three-room apartments and those having larger numbers of rooms accounted for 87 percent of all newly constructed apartment units in Czechoslovakia. In terms of the number of dwelling rooms in new apartments, Czechoslovakia is comparable with a number of developed European nations. In 1985, a higher number of dwelling rooms per 1,000 inhabitants than that recorded in Czechoslovakia was recorded only by Finland, Ireland, and Greece. The average useful area of newly built apartment units in Czechoslovakia, however, is substantially smaller than that in the majority of developed capitalist nations. The average useful area in those countries ranges from 84 to 187 square meters per unit. In Czechoslovakia, in comparison with 1980, the average useful area of a newly built apartment unit increased from 70.3 square meters to 72.1 square meters in 1985.

The equipment of newly built apartment units in Czechoslovakia is improving expressly. The majority of apartment units built in Czechoslovakia following World War II has running water and a built-in bathroom or at least a shower. In 1985, essentially all new apartment units had this type of equipment. Central heating is currently being provided in more than 90 percent of new apartment units. More than half of all apartments in Czechoslovakia already have central heating. In this respect, Czechoslovakia reached the level of the most developed capitalist nations in Europe as early as the 1970's.

The relatively rapid rate of construction in Czechoslovakia has specifically accounted for an increase in the share of more modern apartments with modern facilities in the overall apartment inventory and made possible the elimination of apartments of the lowest quality. During the census of citizens, houses, and apartments, it was determined that, as of 1 November 1980, some 60 percent of all apartments in Czechoslovakia had been built after 1945 and are, thus, less than 35 years old. However, there remained 40 percent of older apartments, including 11.6 percent which had been built during the last century and 8.7 percent which were constructed between 1900 and 1910.

The efficiency of apartment construction in Czechoslovakia is lowered by a sizable decrease in the number of existing apartments (particularly as a result of demolition). The fact that just in the period 1981 through 1985 there was a decrease of 88,000 apartments bears witness to the fact that more opportunities to modernize, with the view of prolonging the service life of apartments were not utilized. Consequently, in terms of the numbers of all apartments per 1,000 inhabitants, Czechoslovakia continues to lag behind the developed nations of Europe. In 1985, this number was 367 in Czechoslovakia whereas, for example, the number of apartments per 1,000 inhabitants in Austria was 415, in Belgium 405, in the GDR 411, in the FRG 443, and in Switzerland 453.

Improvements in the level of dwelling are being accomplished in Czechoslovakia with a considerable contribution from national resources. Low rents and preferential rents in communal housing construction for families, based on the number of children, as well as advantages and assistance granted by the state to construction cooperatives and to the construction of single-family houses are one of the important accomplishments of socialist society. In 1985, the total costs incurred by organizations active in the housing economy were approximately Kcs 4.5 billion higher than their overall sales.

5911

CSO: 2400/167

PAPER REPORTS ON PLANS FOR NEW HIGHWAYS

Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 23 Feb 87 p 2

[Article: "Adjustment of the Highway Network"]

[Text] The highways of North Bohemia are among the most heavily traveled in the entire republic. The expanding extraction of coal, the concentration of electric power, industry, and heavy truck traffic lead to a considerable amount of wear and tear on the system. During the 8th Five-Year Plan, therefore, a total of Kcs 3 billion will be expended on reconstruction, repair, and modernization of the highway network.

The greatest amount of attention is devoted to the principal communications in the kraj, Highway 13, which runs along the base of the Krusne Hory Mountains, which will be involved in some 13 extensive projects which are already under way or are being prepared. Among the largest is the complicated intersection with the first-class Highway 7 at Chomutov, continuation of the bridge construction at Decin, and the projected corridor through Liberec. Tens of kilometers of straightened-out highways, which will avoid dangerous curves and elevations, as well as bypasses around cities will contribute to a greater degree of traffic safety and traffic flow improvement. For example, at Postoloprty na Lounsku construction of the bypass, which will eliminate the considerable amount of traffic from the city center, continues. A dangerous descent on Highway 8 near Zalany is to be replaced, by 1999, with a new bypass; also, at the center of Usti nad Labem Kraj the traffic situation will be eased by a so-called small bypass which will avoid the busiest municipal highways.

5911

CSO: 2400/181

BILAK, LUCAN, OTHERS ATTEND PREMIERE OF NEW OPERA

Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 23 Feb 87 p 2

[Article: "New Opera Introduced"]

[Text] A new opera by national artist Jan Cikker, entitled "From the Life of Insects," had its world premiere on Saturday at the Slovak National Theater.

For his musical dramatic works, Jan Cikker always selected models with expressly ethical contents. While he primarily reached for topics from world literature, he composed his new and ninth opera on the topic of the play by the brothers Capek. The Capek play, in which moral concepts are personified by insects, with an overly beautiful central character of the hobo is preserved in Cikker's operatic drama. His operatic transcription sounds like a celebration of human goodness and a rejection of inhumanity.

The new Cikker opera was produced by national artist Ladislav Vychodil, the musical director was meritorious artist Viktor Malek, and the director was meritorious artist Branislav Kriska. The central character of the hobo was played by JuraJ Hrubant.

The premiere was attended by member of the Presidium and secretary of the Central Committee of the CPCZ, Vasil Bilak, by deputy premier of the CSSR, Matej Lucan, and by the head of the department of the Central Committee of the CPSL, Rudolf Jurik.

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CSO: 2400/181

WORK ETHIC STUDY NOTES PAPAL ENCYCLICAL ON LABOR

Warsaw RADAR in Polish No 43, 23 Oct 86 p 6

[Interview with Professor Antoni Rajkiewicz by Piotr Sarzynski: "Women Are Better"]

[Text] [Question] Professor, is it true that Poles are not good workers?

[Answer] They vary. Some good workers, others are very good and then some work very poorly. The research we have done shows that people employed in the private sector work most productively. This is above true of agriculture in which the work rhythm is dictated by nature herself who cannot be fooled. A farmer has to plow, sow, harvest and feed his livestock all at the right time. The same is true of handicrafts and especially the service trades because the customers set the work rhythm of the barber and tailor. It is worth pointing out that these individuals usually work every Saturday and their higher income is comes from their constant readiness to work. In the state-owned enterprises, the worst workers are to be found in the bureaus and offices. That is also where one can find the greatest unexploited labor potential.

[Question] Is the form of ownership and sector of the economy the one thing that separates Poles into good workers and bad?

[Answer] No, there are still other factors. For example, work is more disciplined and production in the establishments that hire mostly women. It is true that women use more sick leave and take maternity leave but they are also more careful, conscientious and committed to their jobs. This can be attributed to two things. The first is the good work habits forced upon them by maternity and later transferred to their professional lives. Taking good care of a child stimulates taking better care at one's work. The second factor is alcoholism and that has a much stronger role in the lives of men, especially those employed in production work, than it does with women and as we all know, a state of intoxication is not a good ally to the job at hand.

The next factor is the family situation. Statistics show that persons with families are more conscientious at their jobs than the unmarried. Education also shapes our attitudes toward work. A curious fact is that very highly educated people are more often inefficient and unproductive at their jobs and persons with less education because alcoholism plays a stronger role in the former. People with average levels of education are better workers in all cases.

[Question] Do differences in generation also play a role?

[Answer] If we compare the population the over-50 age group with the people under the age of 30, we see the greatest differences in their attitudes to work and it turns out that the latter group is the least productive of the two. In other words, the statistics tell us that younger people work a little less well.

To summarize these ideas, let us take one example: we conducted a study in 10 places of employment. According to the results, in three of them, the labor organization was up to par with Central European standards, in three the organization was utterly miserable and in the remaining four, it was tolerable but much potential could still be found.

As you can see, Poles vary quite a bit in their degree of industry. This contradicts the generalization that Poles are unproductive, work poorly and are inefficient.

[Question] We have therefore determined that some Poles at least are not as productive as one would wish. Let us now try to find out why. It is an old truth that "you get paid as well as you work". Is the opposite not true in our country and do people work only as well as they are paid which is usually not too well?

[Answer] I recently edited a doctoral dissertation on the theory of organization and management. Its author stated that the most widespread belief in Poland is that higher wages will yield better work. I find that an erroneous assumption. Considering our experience so far and the actual state of affairs, "pay more and we will produce more" is a very questionable stipulation because the decisive role in better work is played by factors such as organization and working conditions or interpersonal relations on the job rather than the money not paid. After all, the lack of money is another myth. There is plenty of money (although not everyone has the same amount) and the problem is really more one of a shortage of goods.

[Question] However, Poles that do contract work abroad and are paid in so-called hard currency are the very models of industry.

[Answer] But one must remember that the selection of Poles sent for foreign construction work is usually quite severe. Therefore, the ones that go abroad are those that worked well at home too. We studied that group of workers and

asked them what they imagined their work would be like once they returned to Poland. It turned out that the majority would eagerly remain abroad and their chief motive was not the higher wages at all but the much better organization of work. This improved organization made them more satisfied with their work and the higher salaries were just seen as something extra.

[Question] If the problem does not lie with low wages, then maybe it is our history that has made us so unproductive. For example, let us consider the partitions of our country which did not exactly encourage the spread of a good work ethic in our country, our poorly developed capitalism and finally, the turtle, the patriotic symbol from World War II. Can it be that we as a nation have simply not learned how to be good workers?

[Answer] Your point of view is a fairly widespread one. Under the "Pa and 2000" committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences, there were organized two conferences dedicated to the problem of labor. The participants also had their own different opinions. However, let us look at the genealogy of various population groups. We will then see that descendants of those who once drank and lost all their property gambling working quite well along with families that once had a strong work ethic now producing highly asocial individuals. That is why all such generalizations about history and tradition are very dangerous. They are often spread by those who wish to find an alibi for their own attitudes.

[Question] Where then can we find the source of our often inefficient and poor work?

[Answer] I have already said that in part. It can above all be found in poor work organization, in the attitudes of foremen, managers, etc and also in excessive job seniority (especially in state and economic administration).

[Question] If these are common traits that to a greater or lesser degree can be attributed to all workers, then why is it that we most often find little will to work among young people who might otherwise seem to be full of fervor, energy and good will?

[Answer] There are three factors and the chief one is how the educational process prepares them for work. The way they do their schoolwork will later be the same way they do their jobs. The matter goes even further than that and involves the teaching doctrine used in Poland. We persist in seeing the connections between education and employment in terms of quantity (we learn how many specialists there are in a given specialization) rather than quality (how we prepare ourselves for professional work).

The second factor is family upbringing which carries the tradition of good or bad work from one generation to another. The third and final element is the work environment itself. This is where the most "sins" are found. For example, there is bad preparation or the promotion of people who are often much less qualified than the workers they are supposed to lead. That is why

the first days, weeks and months that a young person spends on the job are full of frustration. Our studies have shown us that there has been a considerable amount of regression in the way young people adapt to their places of work. We supposed that this depends to a great extent on how they imagined professional life while they were still students. If their ideas were too idealized, then the later confrontation with reality is often dramatic. If, on the other hand, they expected too little and were too passive, this too lead directly to bad work. A successful adaptation to work also depends on the personality of the young worker's immediate supervisor. The type of "boss" they get has a considerable influence on their attitude toward work.

Generally speaking, I feel that education and the period of transition from school to work is the weakest link in the Polish system.

[Question] Your diagnosis of the situation also shows how the present situation can be improved. The weak points are the educational system, adaptation processes and work organization. Are there still any other areas that need changing?

[Answer] The problem of attitudes toward work and income gained from employment. There still continue to exist in Poland groups of people or organizations that prefer to play Robin Hood rather than Luther. The Robin Hoods want to rob the rich to give to the poor, regardless of how the rich came by their wealth. Meanwhile, there are too few people with the Lutheran or Calvinist attitude in which the work ethic is the supreme value.

Other than that, I am alarmed by the very weak echo in our society left by the Papal Encyclical and especially the encyclical, "Laborem exercens". In a country in which 85 percent of the population professes a faith in Catholicism, the total disregard for such important social directives as the encyclicals is really striking. I think that there is no great difference between the lay officials who accept the Marxist concept of the value of labor and the religious orientation. Both concepts can form a common foundation for the dialogue and understanding we need so much. Shared concern for improving attitudes toward work, the struggle against social pathology and the fight to improve the general level of culture of our society constitute three areas in which both sides should find common ground and I would put the problem of work in first place. However, that means that the church should consider using instruments like its sermons, catechisms and even the confessional to influence public attitudes. A united front of church and state reinforced with the proper education "for work" and "through work" could quickly work beneficial changes to the way we work.

[Question] Thank you for the conversation.

12261

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KATOWICE REGION NOTES YOUTH CRIME STATISTICS

Katowice TRYBUNA ROBOTNICZA in Polish 7 Jan 87 pp 3,4

[Interview with Katowice Provincial Court Judge Barbara Bochynska by Jolanta Talarczyk: "When a Criminal Is 'Born'"]

[Text] A person is not born a criminal but becomes one under the influence of various circumstances. Demoralization is not something that happens all at once or in a random fashion but is actually a process in which a person adopts certain types of behaviors to meet his or her own needs. We spoke about juvenile crime with Katowice Provincial Court Judge Barbara Bochynska, inspector for family and juvenile affairs and vice-chairman of the Adolescent Help Section of the office of the Chairman of the Katowice Provincial Court.

[Question] Just before the introduction of the law on juvenile case proceedings, every 10th juvenile convicted in courts was under 17 years of age. In 1983 alone, the courts convicted 33,000 children while it has been shown that the percentage of punishable crimes committed by children is negligible. The rate of juvenile demoralization in Poland is no worse than in any other country but is just the same quite alarming, all the more so as it is on the rise. One often hears it said that Silesia and the region of the Silesian Coal Basin is driving up this sad national statistic. Is that really true?

[Answer] Indeed, one does hear such strange rumors but they have little in common with reality. The fact of the matter is that even though the very size of our province produces a very high absolute number of crimes, we still rank 25th in the number of crimes per 100,000 inhabitants. This does not put our province in too bad a position on the Polish crime map. In 1984, all 29 of the family and juvenile departments of the Provincial Court received 1703 cases involving children who had committed criminal acts. In 1985, this figure went up a little to 1855 cases. When last year's figures are compiled, they will probably show a very slight increase. In our region, juvenile crime is highest in the large urban centers of Bytom, Chorzow, Katowice and Jastrzebie.

[Question] Research on juvenile crime has shown that its structure has not changed much and that about 90 percent of cases involve theft. Have the courts seen any new signs of criminality?

[Answer] We continue to see cases almost exclusively involving crimes against property. The first thefts can be found as early as preschool age. In the beginning, children begin stealing things in their own homes. Later they start stealing at school, on the streets, in trains and in shops. The value of the stolen items is usually negligible. It is only later when they become teenagers that children start taking more valuable items and breaking into both private and public buildings. This is also the age in which juveniles first commit robberies and rapes that are sometimes carried out in an exceptionally cruel and brutal manner. One sign of increasing youth demoralization is the rise in crimes committed by organized groups or under the influence of alcohol. Whenever we find alcohol, there is also [illegible] aggression and [illegible].

[Question] At the beginning of the 1980's, an average of one out every 9 convicted juveniles was sent to correctional institutions but it is that one out of 9 that causes the greatest fear and concern because these institutions are felt almost everywhere to produce seasoned, adult criminals and are where the little thief has to grow up in the company of 17-year-old murderers or rapists. Such beliefs still persist.

[Answer] At this time, in our region, it is only every 15th child convicted of a punishable crime that is sent to a correctional institution and then only if he or she is at least 13 years old and has not responded to previous educational efforts. The law on juvenile case procedure has substantially limited the possibility of using correctional isolation because it assumes that a child can be socially indoctrinated only within society.

The functioning of the correctional institutions has been improved. In Katowice Province, there are four such establishments. In Zawiercie, we have a very good one for girls and the methods used there are followed with great interest by many foreign specialists. The youngest boys are sent to the institution in Raciborz. In Zahrze, there is a liberal institution which resocializes boys in an open environment and prepares them for conditional release. Meanwhile, we have in Puzcyno an institution just for the oldest groups of boys. Therefore, our need of institutions for specific age groups is fully satisfied. In certain individual cases, we send children to other and more specialized institutions throughout Poland such as those with stronger educational supervision.

[Question] Since we are already talking about the law on juvenile case procedure, please tell us what results the new law has given in the three years that it has been in force.

[Answer] The first result of the new law was the establishment of family and juvenile departments in each of the courts. These have still not been

established everywhere because there is a shortage of personnel and facilities but in our district, all of the regional courts have them. This has also made it possible to more narrowly regionalize juvenile proceedings. In practice, every judge has his own territory and handles all cases from "his territory", both those concerning alimony, the determination of paternity, the restriction or abolition of parental rights as well as the cases that come under the law on juvenile procedure, sobriety and the prevention of drug-addiction and alcoholism. This gives greater cohesion to the ruling on a single given family and also makes it possible to resolve that family's problems in a more comprehensive manner. The family courts, as they are called, are the only ones competent to hear juvenile cases. We are able to react to every signal, even anonymous telephone calls.

[Question] An important provision of the law is the introduction of the so-called institution of consequent help.

[Answer] In the office of the Chairman of the Katowice Provincial Court, we have established Poland's first Juvenile Help Section. It is made up of representatives of organizations and institutions that can in any way help children and its task is to coordinate this type of activity. In our work, we have done more than the 25 April 1983 order of the chairman of the Council of Ministers called for. We help not only juveniles leaving correctional, educational institutions or foster families but also those who remain wards of the state or other trustworthy persons without having to separate these children from their present environment.

Juvenile assistance takes many different forms because not all children can return to their natural families. Sometimes they must be provided with a substitute environment, be housed in a worker's hostel, orphanage or quickly receive an apartment. Often, there is also the problem of pensions or specialized treatment. Recently, we have been hit with a new problem which is that drug-addicted or alcoholic children require a resocialization institution of their own. Last year, we initiated the opening of a special youth detoxification center in Szopienice. However, this facility only provides detoxification without really offering any real treatment. We ourselves must find the means to implement court rulings on this matter. I think that we will succeed in doing so with the help of the Commission for Prevention of Drug Addiction.

[Question] Let us return for a moment to the problem of juvenile crime. The law states that a child can be placed in a correctional institution only as a last resort and once all other means of influencing that child's behavior have been exhausted. How effective have those measures been?

[Answer] Full implementation of the law's provisions causes many serious problems. We can say that it this law was written with the needs of the next century in mind and that its provisions considerably exceed what can actually be accomplished now. I think that it is really a wonderful law in as much as it breaks away the old penal mentality and relies above all on educational

methods. It desists from the use of repression against juveniles and its chief goal is the welfare of the child in the sense of achieving beneficial changes in his or her personality and behavior so that the child's personal and social life will undergo the proper growth. For the first time, this law introduces the concept of demoralization and gives an entire catalog of means to fight it.

Unfortunately, the courts are very often quite limited in what they can do, not to mention the fact that in some cities, the lack of court personnel has disrupted the work of entire departments. A court ruling only concludes one stage of juvenile proceedings. A greater problem is what new resources can be used. Theoretically, for example, supervision of a child can be given to an organization, place of employment or trustworthy person but one can count on literally the fingers of one hand the number of organizations ready to cooperate in supervising a juvenile.

We may rule that a child be placed in a foster home, educational institution or treatment center but it is also the case that it sometimes takes several months to make such arrangements because, unlike correctional institutions, the educational institutions of the education and health ministries continually lack space. Meanwhile, a child left in a pathological and criminal environment may commit another crime and become even more demoralized. The ranks of a well-trained and devoted cadre of custodians have thinned much in recent years and social work of that nature has therefore lost much of its edge. We cannot expect it to improve any when each custodian is responsible for 15 or more children instead of the optimal number of 3. And each of these children require special care and, above all, a lot of time.

[Question] Under such a situation, do the youth custodial centers not become much more important?

[Answer] However, we have only 48 such centers in the entire province and there should be at least several in every city. Meanwhile, there is not a single one in Pozzysno, for example. We could most certainly find the people to work in these centers but the premises necessary would be harder to arrange. The buildings that best fit the need are those that include housing. Rybnik and Wodzislaw have offered beautiful examples to be followed. In essence, what we want is for children in such centers to learn normal social roles as they would in a normal family and in some drastic cases, the children affected would also be able to stay overnight when necessary. Unfortunately, most of the centers use school-owned guest rooms or apartment clubhouses which do not really have the proper conditions for resocialization.

The new law requires not only a knowledge of regulations on the procedures and materials but also real experience as well as psychological, pedagogical and medical knowledge. It is obvious that we do not have judges so qualified and that is why we need the help of psychologists, pedagogues and doctors. This assistance is provided by the Family Diagnostic and Consultation Centers that conduct specialized research and offer opinions. Every court should have such

a center. There should be 29 of them but we barely have four because there is nowhere to house them. Really, much can be said about the difficulties of implementing the law.

[Question] Therefore, the possibilities of using the full gamut of educational resources are very limited. If that is the case indeed, then what are the chances that children will return to crime?

[Answer] We do not have any statistics on the situation throughout our province as we would have to obtain a report on every single region individually. However, our observations have shown that recidivism is very high. Recently, some of my colleagues made a study in Zabrze and found that recidivism in their region was as high as 25-30 percent of the entire population of children having committed punishable crimes. Everyone who can do anything about it should know that cutting corners in the prevention of juvenile demoralization bears its bitter fruit in adult crime. It is much harder to changed learned lifestyles, habits and ways in which criminals satisfy their needs.

[Question] Thank you very much for the conversation.

12261

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REASONS FOR YOUTH VIEWS ON SOCIALISM, CHURCH-GOING NOTED

Warsaw POLITYKA in Polish No 2, 10 Jan 87 p 5

[Article by Lechoslaw Gawrecki: "The Attitude Crisis Begins in School -- Like a Seismograph"]

[Excerpts] The young generation has always been regarded as the most difficult social group. Every epoch and society has usually complained about youth and it is no different today.

Young people today are accused of having assumed a passive attitude, reluctance to become involved in any social action, a lack of interest in what is happening in the world today, weak resistance to failure, lack of stamina and above all, lack of independence and constant expectation of help (especially material help) from adults.

The result of all these attitudes is that young people cannot please anyone. Youth do not oppose socialism to the extent that the system's enemies would like to see nor do they become involved in the life of the socialist state to the degree expected by those from whom they will have to inherit the future.

The cause of this phenomenon can most easily be found in the difficult economic conditions. There is much truth to that assertion because it is indeed hard to convince someone of an ideal when he or she has no good prospects for receiving their own apartment.

But is it just a question of material issues? Could we assume that if the purchase of a washing machine, refrigerator or carpet ceased to be a problem, then youth would immediately become more socially involved, there would be a landslide of new PRON members and youth organizations would blossom? Certainly not. The crisis in social attitudes has much deeper roots and begins where young people spend half of their lives, in school. Of course, shortcomings in the system of education are just one cause of passive attitudes among youth. It must not be forgotten that a school is not an autonomous organism but much the opposite. It functions in a manner closely related to the overall political, social, economic and cultural situation.

Today's reality is characterized not only by an increasing rate of change in all areas of life but also by continuously growing discrepancies and complications much greater than any man has yet seen. Under conditions such as these, education and the development of a personality among young people has become an ever more complex and difficult task and not only in Poland.

In psychology, the phenomenon of growth acceleration is accentuated.

However, the mental growth acceleration of the young generation is clearly accompanied by retarded social maturation in which modern youth develop more and more slowly. Let us compare the 16-year-old of today and one of 30 years ago. The latter either worked (which in itself matured him socially) or studied but did so under very difficult material conditions.

In just 30 years, everything has changed. It is true that we are having a crisis and are suffering economic difficulties but the material conditions under which today's youth live are incomparably better than those of the end of the 1960's. Their parents also have incomparably greater opportunities. They can arrange everything from places in schools and universities to good grades on report cards. They can get their children deferred from army service and get them work, apartments, complete furniture and sometimes even a car.

In return for all that, they only expect their children to study hard. And if they expect the children to have any responsibilities, it is only little tasks requiring little physical effort such as taking out the garbage, washing the dishes or going to the store (just to make the simplest purchases because the parents prefer to take care of any that involve ration cards or a lot of hunting).

That is why there are so many children in their 20's that do not at all feel like adults. These are grown-up boys with infantile personalities and no feeling of responsibility for their behavior. As when they were children, they expect only pleasure from life and no responsibilities or restrictions.

In spite of their intentions, the schools themselves contribute to the formation of such attitudes. Their only demand on youth is that they study hard and make good grades.

Where do children find the time to make formal and informal social contacts, to develop their own interests or to be active in youth organizations?

The schools themselves do nothing to encourage that. Students predisposed toward social activity are constantly told by the schools: "Study better and do not socialize because you will not graduate". Can anyone therefore be surprised at how much the youth organizations have decayed in many schools?

Likewise, the predominant teaching methods also fail to promote active and engaged attitudes among pupils. Just the opposite, they encourage pupils to

passively master cut and dried information of no social relevance or controversy. Would you like example? Hearing "Pan Tadeusz" at a lecture, a pupil is told that the descriptions of nature in this work are very beautiful and that he must memorize them. He therefore duly memorizes the verses and spouts them back whenever he must but does not at all feel for himself the beauty of what he has learned. He continues to feel that they are boring but never confides that to the teacher. However, such a remark would be a great point of departure for real discussion that could lead to some real feeling (rather than memorizing!) for the beauty of this poetry.

Unfortunately, schools above all require passive knowledge of facts rather than any demanding intellectual activity and ability to interpret, associate and discuss facts.

Above all, the Polish school of today is more concerned with developing the pupil's memory (something that will be least necessary in later life) than with developing his intellectual powers or even less so, his beliefs and attitudes.

It is said that people in Poland easily accept superficial and unsubstantiated ideas (especially those with great emotional content) and that there are too many people who blindly believe in foreign propaganda, even when it conveys information based on outright nonsense. However, is that not to a considerable degree the result of the fact that the schools do not teach us how to select information, reason for ourselves, coolly and objectively analyze all arguments and see for ourselves the many facets of every problem?

One can also blame youth passivity and indifference on the isolated nature of the schools. Great events can take place all around the schools and everyone is talking about them but the schools (and not just the Polish ones) remain deaf and dumb to all that is happening in the world.

We can therefore see that there is much more discussion of school programs than the content of learning or of teaching methods that have remained much the same as when there was half as much material to be taught. Hastening to teach an ever greater amount of material, teachers concentrate on facts and totally neglect any opportunities for thought. In the schools, no one bothers to analyze (with the exception of literature or historical events) complicated moral or philosophical problems or existential concerns, etc. After all, these problems are very important to the process of growing up and trouble youth ones to the extent that they sometimes cause profound internal conflicts and doubts.

If the schools do not allow discussion of agonizing doubts, then youth will head for where it is not the teaching program that is most important but the problem itself, where philosophical questions are not avoided and where there waits an universally educated person well prepared to discuss and argue -- the church. Is it not a paradox that moral doubts about birth control or abortion

are almost always spontaneously brought up by young people at every religious lesson and almost never in public schools?

I would like to be well understood: I am not denying the church's educational role. On the contrary, I feel that this institution may play a very important role in educating youth ("Do not steal, do not lie..."). However, the schools must become an equal partner in youth upbringing. So far, the truth of the matter is that the socialist school has been concentrating on drumming an enormous number of facts from many disciplines into the pupils' heads and the church has been teaching them the proper way to behave and the right social and moral attitudes. In the schools, didactics have taken so much the upper hand over education that not rarely at all, one hears teachers suggest that schools exist just learning, period. And upbringing? That is the task of the home and family. Teachers feel that way because the greatest amount of time in their professional education was devoted to the conveyance of knowledge. A little time was still devoted to teaching methods and the least emphasis was on upbringing. At the start of the 1980's, there were some attempts to eliminate pedagogical subjects from the university curricula and they were motivated by the belief that a physicist or biologist with a good knowledge of the facts of his science will automatically make a good teacher.

Fortunately, such ideas were rejected and a minimal number of hours of pedagogical training was required. However, this training concentrated chiefly on didactics (mostly traditional verbal didactics) and clearly neglected teaching future educators how to shape the moral and social attitudes of their pupils.

In sum, it is a simple fact that upbringing is best accomplished in preschools and early grades of primary school. Later, the higher the class, the more important becomes the mastery of knowledge, grades, passing tests, etc.

In secondary schools, the teacher feels more like a mathematician, chemist or geographer than an educator. An the fact of the matter is that teachers receive bonuses and other awards for presenting good lectures (the more encyclopedic, the better) and for the knowledge that shows up on the tests given their pupils. Teachers are not rewarded for dragging a child out of drug addiction or mental depression nor for stimulating them to take part in a youth organization.

It is not surprising that the only action many teachers take to educate their pupils consist of authoritatively and verbally informing them of what type of behavior is praiseworthy, what is condemned, what they can do and what is forbidden. Nothing at all comes of that because education is not a matter of providing a mentor but of stimulating reflection, contemplation and causing the pupil to develop the internal mechanisms of moral behavior.

Undoubtedly, the real cause of the failure of contemporary schools is the lack of an educational system that gives a logical and cohesive framework to the actions of individual teachers.

After all, we have seen some quite recent interesting attempts to socialize and activate school youth. There was an especially interesting proposal for an educational system that was prepared by a group led by Professor Heliodor Muszynski. In the 1970's, this concept was successfully spread by the school administration immediately recommended that it be made obligatory in all schools, despite the fact that it would have been better to first acquaint the teachers with its and convince them of its good points. But these were times in which it seemed enough to just give orders to teachers and they would carry them out. That immediately caused sharp but repressed opposition and an a priori rejection of the suggested (or rather, dictated) educational concept. It reached the point that the Poznan Educational System most criticized those who did not actually know it nor understood its meaning but merely heard through some points, appeals and other whims for God-knows-why.

However, the whole point of this system was to achieve what is missing in our schools. What it called for was teaching of a more socializing nature to educate people not only equipped with the knowledge they need to work but also actively involved in the issues of their immediate environment, of Poland and the world and prepared to take a meaningful social role as adults. It is true that the Poznan proposal also had its weaknesses but as Muszynski always intended, they could be avoided with creative adaptation of certain concepts to the actual conditions of the given school. However, concentrating just on the shortcomings (as certain writers, especially those of ZYCIE LITERACKI very gladly did) without considering the considerable advantages caused the system to fail.

However, the proper measures are absolutely necessary. Further neglect of the school's educational role would be the direct cause of 21st-century Poland becoming a nation of individuals maturing only after their 30th birthday, reluctant to become involved in anything and requiring constant supervision (and from whom?). This cannot come to pass. Meanwhile, on the other hand, any single actions and especially any orders imposed from above do not have any chance of success in such a delicate area as the education of the young generation. This is especially obvious in today's educational process. There is therefore a need for action to change systems.

I would like to emphasize that it is not a matter of a single document containing orders from above that must be realized in the schools. What we need is something else entirely. To put it simply, we must have a plan of action or better, a plan of changes, that must be realized throughout the entire educational system to make it a system that effectively cultivates the personalities of our young people.

Such a program should be the result of profound and extensive scientific diagnosis of the efficiency of the educational processes used so far. This diagnosis should be made very well known to teachers and anyone else connected with education. Any innovations will only come from a serious knowledge of the causes of our present failures.

12261

CSO: 2600/355

SOCIOLOGISTS STUDY POLITICAL, SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

Warsaw KULTURA in Polish No 41, 8 Oct 86 pp 1, 4

[Interview with Professor Piotr Szlompka, director of the Institute of Sociology, Jagiellonian University, by Alicja Kos: "Critics and Representatives"]

[Text] [Question] The recent 7th National Congress of Sociology marks the conclusion to a period that has been a particularly difficult one for sociology. It has been a period in which sociology has had to ponder public moods and the political and social events that marked life in our country. Most certainly, that is why so much discussion was devoted to the state, tasks and conditions for the development of Polish sociology. How do you feel about the balance of the last 5 years presented at the congress?

[Answer] These meetings of Polish sociologists every 5 years or so generally denote phases in the development of this science in Poland. The previous congress held in Lodz took place at an especially historic moment and was therefore a congress with heated confrontation between different points of view about what was happening in our country at the beginning of the 1980's. This congress was also one in which there was achieved a certain community of desires and values, especially those to which sociologists have devoted themselves ever since the science came into being. What I mean is the desire to make society a real force in its own change and a feeling of solidarity with the mass expectations and public hopes that so sharply manifested themselves at that time.

Later, there emerged fairly strong differences between sociologists. Some of them were strongly in favor of distancing themselves from political events and tried to not become directly involved with programs set by the government. The others were openly in favor of the changes started after December 1981. The sociologists therefore became a divided group. The Wroclaw congress, in my opinion, signalled a return to more cohesion among sociologists, to normalcy and, if I may say so, a return to a group in which all more or less identically see their place within society and plan their programs for future action in a similar manner.

After all, this congress took place just a few days after the immeasurably significant and politically important act of freeing the persons arrested for crimes against public order and the state. This decision was received with unanimous enthusiasm and approval and it can be said quite plainly that its reception within the sociological community signalled the end of a period of conflicts, divisions and strong differences of opinion. The amnesty had an obvious effect on the atmosphere of the congress. Polish sociologists were once again a united community, despite all theoretical differences, differences of opinion about certain questions and despite all political disagreements. There was general agreement about what could most simply be called the logic of reform and the dominant themes of the previous congress, the logic of revolution and the logic of desires for fundamental changes, were dropped. However, the basic values of the sociological community such as public control of society, the role of the masses as the creator of their own fate and solidarity with the desires of the broadest social groups were not dropped. I think that almost all Polish sociologists presently acknowledge this as their common policy and are taking the same path of small but continuing steps toward the realization of these values in politics and I find that a very optimistic result of the Wroclaw congress.

[Question] For several years if not already a score or more, Polish sociology has received two serious accusations. The first is that empirical studies are limited to counting percents without giving proper attention to relationships and that this very much simplifies sociological analysis. The second is that Polish theory has not at all kept up with world thought. Most of the directions taken by international sociology such as ethnomethodology, symbolic interactionism or phenomenological sociology not to mention the other theories that have emerged in the 1980's are simply recorded in Poland. Meanwhile, to only a negligible extent do we exploit differences in theoretical approaches. It is said that Polish sociology has not only fallen behind but is moving backwards. In connection with this, was there any self-criticism expressed at the congress or any response to these accusations?

[Answer] The sociological community has always been very critical of its own work. Such a critical approach to one's own possibilities and results is characteristic not only of Polish sociologists but of the science in general and sometimes even leads to excessive pessimism. These stand at the same pole. Meanwhile, on the other side of the coin, one also finds among us a form of megalomania, especially when Polish sociology is compared to the sociology of other countries and especially our neighboring socialist countries. Until just recently, one could hear Polish sociology spoken of as a particular select sociology that is somehow a collective master for sociologists from other socialist countries. However, to be frank, I agree with neither that attitude nor the other. I think that the uniqueness of Polish sociology has now become an anachronism. It may have been true in the 1950's and early 1960's when the science did indeed undergo stormy growth in our country following the events of November 1956 and made great gains which put it in a leading position worldwide. However, I feel that Polish sociology is no longer unique.

If we look today at our sociology from the perspective of world science, then we see how violently sociology has developed in Hungary and the German Democratic Republic, not to mention the Soviet Union which long ago renounced its traditionally unilateral character for more modern empirical means and a knowledge of its own society in more than merely ideological or political categories. Compared to what these countries have been doing, Polish sociology no longer has any special position.

[Question] In 1980-1981, Polish sociology again became very famous.

[Answer] But this time, it was only a reflection of the current events in Polish society and the world's interest in the social processes taking place in our country then. I would therefore not share what I feel to be the extreme view expressed at the congress that Polish sociology then completely left world standards.

If we look at the problem by asking whether what we are doing today stands at the leading edge of sociological work or is producing any revolutionary theories, then I really think that we have not been creating anything worth copying by other sociologists around the world.

However, if one takes an entirely different look at the problem and asks whether our methods have kept up with the world standard, then I think that the answer is more affirmative. Indeed, in empirical areas in which the newest data-processing techniques are employed around the world, we have run up against a technological barrier but these can be effectively overcome.

With regard to how much Polish sociologists know about what is happening around the world in terms of theories, methods and current trends in the science, then I must say that I am quite optimistic. There is no difference between what we are doing in Polish sociological institutions and what we are learning from the countries with the most advanced sociological sciences. The proof of this is the amazement of scientists that come to Poland to publicize their concepts and theories and are surprised to find that our sociologists know their work so well and can ask some very penetrating questions about it. Recently, just such a surprise was experienced by one contemporary American sociologist, professor Turner, who had come to Poland with some fairly elementary lectures and learned that Polish students already use his textbook which has been translated and published by PWN [State Academic Publishing House] and that their knowledge far exceeded his expectations.

[Question] The relationship between how Polish society is perceived around the world and the state of Polish sociology was very clearly shown four years ago at the 10th Sociological Congress in Mexico when for political reasons we had lost practically any opportunity to have our own representatives within the world sociological movement. However, how did it happen that at the 11th World Congress in Delhi a few months ago, our sociologists were again somehow left standing in the shadows?

[Answer] I think that this was because of the fact that national sociologists are perceived above all. At the congress in Delhi, the most visible of the delegations from the socialist countries were the Bulgarians, our colleagues from the German Democratic Republic and the Soviets. By contrast we had for economic reasons a very small delegation of 8 persons and it was the smallest of the groups representing the socialist nations. Therefore, for this and other reasons, Professor Artur Medier of the GDR represented the socialist nations among the International Sociological Association [ISA] officials and there were also some representatives from Bulgaria, the USSR and Hungary but no one from Poland. This is a clear signal that we must increase our presence in the world structures of the sociological movement.

[Question] I have heard that during the congress, you took certain steps to achieve that.

[Answer] That is true. I have tried to organize a new research committee within the ISA dedicated to an area in which I have been involved for years, namely sociological theory. With Professor Jeffrey Alexander of the University of California in Los Angeles, we attempted to take the necessary organizational steps. We have the support of many colleagues from many different countries and we expect that within the next four years, we will be able to set up that committee. Its first organizational meeting is supposed to be held in Krakow in 1988. Perhaps that is one of the methods that will make it possible for us to recover our lost position within the ISA.

[Question] However, do you not think that, aside from a few exceptions, the general lack of achievement among Polish sociologists will hinder our recovery of a leading position?

[Answer] Of course, it is most important that we make ourselves known through what we write and publish. However, if Polish sociologists want to be more well-known internationally, then they absolutely must publish in languages more accessible than our own. We cannot gain international renown without overcoming that substantial barrier. What sort of works should we publish? I think that the world expects to see Polish sociologists working in two broad fields, both of which are associated with what I would call the particular Polish anomaly in the better sense of this word.

The first type of work is research on Polish society which in a very specific sense concerns socialist changes. The second field in which our sociologists can present something of interest to the world is the Polish version of socialism in the social and sociological sense. This is especially true because it is traditionally open, nondogmatic and has long been based on dialogue with typically Polish social thought and therefore phenomenology, Catholicism and other philosophical orientations. Anyway, with its pluralistic, Polish context of social thought, our sociology has always grown in a creative manner and has remained open to solving modern Polish problems by using tools characteristic of Marxist thought. It is after all very characteristic of Polish sociologists that they have and continue to try to

explain the transformations, failures and crises we have experienced, especially in recent years, in terms of Marxism itself. I will state quite openly that our only chance of really giving a full explanation of social events is through nondogmatic Marxism. I also feel that this particular Polish version of Marxism has a very good chance of being accepted wherever Marxist thought has had an important role.

[Question] The Wroclaw congress often returned to the occasionally recurring question of the relationship between sociology and politics. Sociologists have criticized politicians for neglecting their work. Do you feel that this accusation is true? If it is, then is it not a typical shortcoming of our system?

[Answer] The relationship between knowledge about society and social practice and even more so to the political practice of a society is never free on conflict and tensions. Why is that? Both sides are of course ready to blame the other for everything. Sociologists do indeed often complain that the politicians do not want to apply the results of their work but it also seems to me that this is chiefly because of the fact that the type of knowledge used by sociologists is simply useless to politicians. Sociologists are under the mistaken belief that what is most useful in politics is a knowledge of facts and the diagnosis of society in terms of certain characteristics, views, etc. However, in all reality and from the point of view of politicians, this knowledge is not very useful. It is obviously better for politicians to have a full, as objective as possible and precise image of society but, as I have said, this is not enough for them to formulate programs and outline the directions of reform. They need still more and above all a theoretical awareness which means a comprehensive model, a vision of society, information on mechanisms determining how society functions and prognoses on the results of realizing a given policy.

It is a mistake to think that sociology functions just to drum up reports that describe in very detailed statistics a list of social pathologies or attitudes. A politician also needs hypotheses, visions and a total model. If he cannot get that from sociologists, then he will rely on his own experience, knowledge and political instincts and in the case of some famous leaders this has even served them better than the best and most accurate sociological expertise. However, in the average government, all levels of administration make fundamental errors. This is undoubtedly a serious weakness of our sociology and it was repeatedly pointed out during discussions that we have still not developed a comprehensive theory of society in the period of transition from an old order to the new traditional socialist order and that is something that we and the politicians greatly need.

[Question] Another considerable weakness of Polish sociology also seems to be that too little of the knowledge about society gained and processed is returned to that society. After all, there have been famous sociologists that helped society gain a greater awareness of itself through the publication of

their writings. Has that function of sociology ceased to be socially necessary?

[Answer] Ever since the science has existed, the function of the sociologist as a professional and an expert oriented toward the political elite and as a servant to society's rulers has always been juxtaposed with the sociologist who tries to use his knowledge as a means of shaping the public awareness. He tries to articulate problems that have their origins in the public subconscious. He tries to bring them out in a process of mass psychotherapy.

The paradox is that a sociologist who sees his mission in such terms is, I think, also useful to society's rulers but only if these rulers consider themselves to be society's representatives and see their own interests in a context of social progress. The tradition of seeing the sociologist as a popular tribune is a very strong one in our science and especially in Marxist sociology. Having abandoned this populist left-wing form of sociology for bureaucratic or autocratic unity recently (and by that I mean during the 1970's) led to considerable distortions of sociological knowledge and irrecoverable political mistakes. One way we can overcome our present difficulties is to restore the sociologist's function as the tribune of the people and as a critic and representative of society.

[Question] Thank you.

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